





SATURDAY MORNING'S  
**COMMERCIAL.**  
YPSILANTI, JAN. 11, 1879.  
**THE MESSAGE.**  
Second Inaugural Message of  
Gov. Crosswell.  
Satisfactory Condition of the  
State Institutions and Fi-  
nances.  
General Prosperity, Growth and  
Development of Michigan.  
The Executive Recommenda-  
tions in Detail.

Gentlemen of the Senate and of the House of Representatives:

You assemble under circumstances of peculiar interest. Yours is the first Legislature to meet within the walls of this new Capitol. The erection and completion of this building is not without significance. It marks the transformation which a few years have wrought in our social and political condition. It bespeaks the growth of population, the increase of wealth, the advancement of science and art, from the time of the rude cabin of the pioneer to the completion of this imposing structure, costing, all furnished, \$1,600,000. As we devote it to the use for which it was constructed, let us hope that all the counsels and deliberations to be held here may conduce to the general welfare, and be instrumental in promoting and perpetuating the blessings of liberty and peace.

In the biennial period just passed general health has prevailed throughout our borders. The earth has produced bountifully and the harvests have been abundant. We have grown in the State within the past year more than 28,000,000 of bushels of wheat, and other cereals and fruits in proportion. In the same time we have produced 1,885,884 barrels of salt, 1,125,230 tons of iron ore, and copper, coal, plaster and slate in very large amounts, of which I have not full statistics for the year. The production of ingot copper in 1877 was 19,385 tons.

**FINANCES.**  
The treasury presents a satisfactory condition. The cash on hand September 30, 1876, was \$1,064,005 30. The receipts from all sources for the two years ending September 30, 1878, aggregate \$4,194,739 21. The total expenditures for the same period amount to \$4,828,404 16. The balance in the treasury on the 30th day of September last was \$400,340 35. No part of this balance belongs to the general fund, which has been overdrawn in the sum of \$173,011 11.

The bonded debt of the State on the 30th day of September, 1876, was \$1,392,149 97. The policy of extinguishing this debt as rapidly as possible has been steadily pursued, and I am gratified to inform you that in two years ending the 30th day of September last, it has been reduced in the sum of \$433,000, leaving the total amount of such indebtedness now standing against the State \$959,149 97. Of the bonds thus paid \$96,000 were purchased before maturity at a premium of \$14,476 80. The saving to the State in interest from this purchase, after deducting the premium paid, will be \$10,693 20.

It being impossible to obtain more of the unmatured bonds at a reasonable premium, the treasurer was authorized by the Board of Fund Commissioners to purchase \$300,000 in 44 per cent. United States bonds and hold them to be applied toward the payment of the debt. This amount, with the addition of the balance in the sinking fund, \$378,251 44, and the \$46,000 in the canal fund, all set apart and applicable to the payment of the bonded debt, when deducted therefrom, reduces the total amount thereof to the sum of \$234,895 53. Then, if we take into account \$111,827 48 of specific taxes unpaid September 30, 1878, and due on call, applicable to its payment will be further reduced to the sum of \$123,071 05. It may be further expected that the receipts of the sinking fund within the coming two years will be sufficient to fully pay off the entire remainder of the bonded debt. We have thus abundant provision for speedily freeing the State from all liabilities of this character. The Constitution creates the sinking fund, and declares that the surplus of the specific taxes received, after payment of interest upon the educational funds and the extinguishment of the public debt shall be added to and constitute a part of the primary school interest fund.

If no change is made in this provision, as soon as the bonded debt is provided for the school fund will absorb the large surplus which yearly thereafter will be received from specific taxes in the sinking fund. In many instances, especially where the school districts are large and the settlements sparse, the school fund already provided is almost sufficient to maintain the schools. If it is doubled and further increased from year to year, as it will be if this constitutional provision remains, many districts will shortly have more school money than they need, a result not likely to be beneficial to the schools or to the public.

Therefore, deeming this enlargement of the school fund not desirable, I recommend an amendment to the constitution carrying this surplus, when ascertained, into the general fund.

The indebtedness of the State to the trust funds on the 30th day of September 1876, was \$3,479,846 71, and on the 30th day of September, 1878, \$3,324,277 82, an increase in two years of \$245,481 11. This indebtedness is now composed of the following funds and amounts:

Primary School Fund.....	\$2,349,114 15
5 per cent Primary School Fund.....	315,836 18
University Fund.....	42,517 66
Normal School Fund.....	63,421 82
Agricultural College Fund.....	130,784 89
Railroad and other deposits.....	3,303 72
Total.....	\$3,324,777 82

the indebtedness to the trust fund has been for years steadily accumulating. It should also be remembered that the present condition of the Treasury does not warrant any lavish expenditure of the public moneys. The maintaining of our recently established State institutions, together with the cost of heating, lighting and caring for this new Capitol building, which necessarily will be very much greater than formerly, will considerably increase the ordinary expenses of the State government.

These considerations, taken in connection with the fact that many of our municipalities are carrying a heavy burden of debt created for local purposes, should lead you to avoid any schemes for additional taxation not of absolute necessity.

**MUNICIPAL INDEBTEDNESS AND ASSESSMENTS.**

It is a source of regret that we have no means through the State offices, or in any other manner readily accessible, of ascertaining the total indebtedness of the counties, cities, towns, villages and school districts of the State, or the aggregate amount levied each year in such localities for county, town, school and road taxes; such information would afford full knowledge of the complete public debt of the State and its subdivisions, with the whole amount of taxes imposed therein; it would enable legislators to act more understandingly than they can at present in making appropriations and providing for just taxation; it would also advise the people more perfectly of the sources that draw means from them by taxation, and I apprehend would promote greater care and more equality in the imposition of burdens of this kind. I would respectfully suggest the propriety of providing, by proper enactment, for such information.

The aggregate value of all the real and personal property of the State, as returned by the assessors in 1876, was as follows:

Real estate.....	\$308,758,035 74
Personal property.....	66,127,992 49
Total.....	\$374,886,028 23

It is alleged, and I have no doubt with truth, that this valuation does not show much more than one-third of the real worth of the property assessed. I have no information of the aggregate amount of the assessments in 1877 and 1878, but have reason to believe that they are made upon the same basis as those in our State constitution, which seems to me mandatorily declares that all assessments upon property shall be at its cash value. I call attention to this subject because, through the decision of the courts in other States, recently made, parties representing large property interests have been enabled to evade payment of their taxes in consequence of disregard of similar statutory provision by assessors.

**STATE INSTITUTIONS.**

I take great pleasure in informing you that in almost every instance the appropriations of two years ago have not been exceeded. The State institutions have lived within their means, and by prudently adhering to a determination to use no more money than could be paid with the ordinary appropriations, they have kept out of debt, and will come before you with no deficiencies in revenue to be made up and provided for. The new policy has not disturbed the working of the institutions, nor in any wise impaired their usefulness, and I hope it may prevail in the future. Their management, taken as a whole, has been good, and generally they are in excellent order.

**STATE PRISONS.**

The State Prison continues to be over-crowded. The number of convicts therein on the 30th of September last was 804, being 156 more than the establishment has cells to accommodate. The daily average for the year was 808. The earnings for the past two years were \$204,920 57, and the ordinary expenses \$200,217 93, which shows a balance for the year of \$4,702 64. During the past year the disbursement have exceeded the earnings in the sum of \$831 79. This is largely due to the general depression in business which has greatly lessened the demand for convict labor and made it impossible to contract for the work of the prisoners at as favorable rates as formerly.

But in addition to this loss of \$14,156 32 suffered by the prison in 1875 and 1876 on a contract for prison labor used in the manufacture of cigars, made with one Charles Hollingsworth, appears as a deficit now, when in fact it was a loss then. In 1875 Hollingsworth, worth lost. His stock of cigars was taken by the inspectors in December of that year by virtue of the lien of the State thereon and not disposed of until after the annual report for 1876 was made, consequently the statement of the loss does not appear therein, as the goods had not been sold or the amount of the deficiency ascertained. With this loss placed where it should be, the prison accounts would not at any time within the past two years have shown a deficit. The addition to the east wing of the prison and to the wagon shop, as well as the extension of the engine room, authorized by the last Legislature, have been built. The State shop and coopershop have likewise been constructed, but no work has been done on the proposed extension of the prison wall. The inspectors represent the general management and discipline as satisfactory, and the health of the convicts good. I invite your special attention to the valuable statistical reports of the warden.

An embarrassing difficulty has arisen in the administration of imprisonment which demands your attention. A woman was convicted in the Superior Court of the city of Grand Rapids of the crime of arson, and sentenced to the State prison for the term of her natural life. The prison having no suitable department for the reception of female convicts, I conferred with the authorities of the Detroit House of Correction with a view of commuting the sentence to imprisonment in that institution, this having been the course previously pursued in cases of women similarly sentenced. To my surprise the managers of the establishment declined to receive her, and arrangements had to be made for her temporary accommodation in the jail of Jackson county. She has remained there for several months under circumstances of inconvenience not tending to the improvement of her

morals nor to securing that restraint and labor contemplated by her sentence. When the transfer of female convicts commenced from the State Prison to the Detroit House of Correction it seems to have been the understanding that thereafter none of this class of convicts were to be kept in the prison, as no arrangement was provided for keeping them there. It was evidently contemplated that all of them would be sent to the House of Correction, and such has been the proceeding until the action to which I have referred. If the managers of the Detroit establishment may at their election refuse admission to female prisoners, then it is clear that some other provision must be made for such offenders. In this connection I may add that the management claim that the State should pay board for all the female convicts transferred from the prison, numbering some 32. I am advised that the transfer of these prisoners was at the solicitation of the authorities of the House of Correction, and that the suggestion of pay for keeping them is of very recent origin.

The whole number of convicts in the prisons of the State, September 30, 1878, was 1,519, of whom only 134 were females. While this showing is greatly to the credit of the sex, it increases rather than lessens the obligations of the State, to see that prisoners of this class are well and humanely cared for. I submit the matter to you, so that action may be taken to remedy the difficulty suggested as speedily as possible.

**STATE HOUSE OF CORRECTION.**

The State House of Correction was opened for the reception of inmates on the 15th day of August, 1877. The entire building, with the exception of one wing of cells, is complete, and the enclosing wall constructed. The work appears to be well done and the buildings admirably adapted for the purposes contemplated in their erection. The total cost of construction thus far is \$256,029 17. The Building Commissioners seem to have discharged their duties faithfully and with fidelity to the public interests. The whole number of prisoners, up to and including the 30th day of September last, was 484, of whom 131 had been transferred from the State prison at Jackson, and 353 received by sentence of court. The whole number of prisoners in the institution on said 30th day of September, 1878, was 233. The whole expense of maintaining the institution from the opening thereof until the 30th day of September last was \$58,443 52, and the earnings \$5,892 59, leaving an excess of expenditures of \$52,550 93. A considerable portion of the work on the buildings in progress of construction during the last year, as well as a large amount of grading on the prison grounds, has been done with the labor of the prisoners. No favorable opportunity for contracting the labor of the men has offered until recently, when an arrangement was closed to place 100 to 200 of them on permanent paying work from January 1, 1879. The managers ask a special appropriation of \$8,184 80 for certain furnishing purposes detailed in their report. They further solicit the privilege of using \$5,000 of the appropriations heretofore made for the purpose of purchasing land adjacent to the institution.

**PARDONS.**

The whole number of persons discharged from the prisons of the State by pardon within the last two years was 45. The number of commutations for the same period was 3. Of the pardoned convicts, two had been convicted of murder, one of whom was released because of evidence developed after the trial seemed to establish innocence, and the other on the representation of officials that he was insane when the crime was committed and had continued so during the whole term of imprisonment. In the latter case, although he was insane, the period of violence had long passed, and the insanity assumed a harmless type. I required his friends to bind themselves to care for him during his life in such manner as to prevent his doing further harm. The whole number of pardons granted in 1879 was 16; in 1870, 16; in 1871, 26; in 1872, 22; in 1873, 37; in 1874, 30; in 1875, 33; in 1876, 23; in 1877, 16, and in 1878, 29. From this statement it will be perceived that the exercise of the pardoning power has been less frequent under my administration than formerly, and the difference will be more apparent when it is remembered that the number of convicts in the prisons within either of the last two years considerably exceeds the number imprisoned in any other year of the series. In thus reducing the exercise of the pardoning power I have been largely governed by the consideration that the enactment of the Legislature of 1875, known as the "good time law," places it within the power of a convict, by diligence and good behavior, to himself greatly lessen his term of imprisonment. The allowance of time under this law for such conduct ranges on a gradual scale, increasing from two months for the first year to six months for the twentieth year. It puts the convict's release measurably in his own hands, and it is itself a liberal grant of pardon. It has worked well in practice, stimulating convicts to conduct themselves in an obedient and orderly manner, and has thus proved of valuable aid in the discipline of the prisons. I am further of the conviction that the too frequent exercise of Executive clemency tends to defeat the ends of justice, to render punishment for crime uncertain, and to make prisoners restless and uneasy.

I have, therefore, limited it to fewer cases than formerly, and before granting it have required a notice of the application to be published. The appeals and impertinencies for pardons are numerous. Four out of every five, on examination, are declined. I have endeavored to confine those granted to cases where the conviction was erroneous, the sentence unusually severe, or the circumstances of such a character that both justice and mercy seemed to require my interposition.

In almost every instance the action has been taken with the approval of the judge who imposed the penalty. That errors will sometimes occur in the determination of such cases is certain; but they would be fewer if complainants, prosecutors and influential citizens, clamorous to get a criminal in prison, were not equally clamorous in a short time to get him out.

**REFORM SCHOOL.**

The Reform School had within its charge on the 30th of September last

327 boys. This is an increase of 65 over last year, and 85 over 1876. The superintendent of the school seems to have been careful and judicious, and the management good. The escapes have been few, although the removal of bars and bolts make the opportunities many. The boys have been organized into a military company and furnished by the State with arms and accoutrements. They drill regularly and well, enjoying it with a keen relish. The board of control estimate the ordinary expenses for the coming two years at \$39,150 per year. They also ask a special appropriation of \$27,507 51, the items of which will be found in their report.

**REFORMATORY FOR GIRLS.**

The subject of a reformatory for girls, to be placed exclusively under the direction and control of women, has engaged the public attention. The success of similar institutions founded in other States has created a conviction that one might be established to good advantage here. That it would be useful in saving many girls who have started on vicious courses from lives of vice and immorality I cannot doubt.

If you shall be satisfied that the number of dissolute girls in the State of a criminal tendency, is, or is likely to be, sufficient to make such an institution a necessity, then steps toward the undertaking would seem wise. I doubt, however, the policy of creating such establishment with the design of making it partly a refuge for indigent or truant girls who have no criminal proclivities. Experience shows that public institutions are not always the best places for the training of young persons. The tendency is to destroy self-reliance and self-help, elements of character necessary to success in life. Besides, the mixing of these classes with the depraved and vicious would serve to corrupt them and result in more harm than good. It is for you to consider the subject in all its bearings, and while carefully avoiding any needless multiplication of State institutions, to make such provisions as shall be found actually necessary.

**STATE PUBLIC SCHOOL.**

The State Public School is a charity peculiar to Michigan. In no other State is there an institution like it that I am aware of. It aims to prevent pauperism and crime by removing children from the corrupting and contaminating associations of the poor house and placing them where they may be prepared for good homes and useful lives. The whole number of children in the school on the 30th day of September last was 313. The current expenses for 1877 were \$30,937 70, and for 1878, \$33,648 04. The per capita cost for each child during the last year was \$81 67. The school has been run within the appropriations, and apparently in a prudent and careful manner. The board ask an appropriation of \$75,000 for current expenses for the ensuing two years, with an additional \$10,000 for sundry items specified in the report. It also asks authority to buy some 60 acres of land for pasturage and other purposes, and suggests that provision be made for the employment by the institution of a visiting agent, whose duty it shall be to seek out homes for the children and otherwise look after their interests. The further suggestion is made that quite a number of the children suffer from chronic disease and require medical treatment or surgical aid, and that measures should be taken to have it furnished at the State hospital at Ann Arbor.

**MICHIGAN ASYLUM.**

During the biennial period just passed, the Asylum for the Insane at Kalamazoo has provided treatment for 1,133 patients. The daily average for the same time has been 645. In August last, 222 were transferred to the Eastern Asylum. This transfer relieved the institution from the crowded condition under which it had been laboring for a long time previous. The whole number of patients on the 1st day of October last was 457. The receipts from all sources during the two years have been \$303,394 63, and the disbursements \$299,400 23, leaving in the treasury September 30, \$3,994 40. Dr. E. H. Van Deusen, who has faithfully devoted many of the best years of his life to the organization and management of the Asylum, has resigned the place of Medical Superintendent, and has been succeeded by Dr. George R. Palmer, who has served for many years as an assistant. Some time since an action for false imprisonment was brought against the Superintendent of this Asylum by a person who had been taken and kept for a time in the institution by direction of one of the superintendents having charge of the poor in a county of the State. The cases involve important questions pertaining to the determination of lunacy, the character of patients entitled to be admitted to the asylum, and the forms requisite to warrant their detention. It is now pending in the Supreme Court, and its decision may make some revision of the law in this regard a necessity.

**EASTERN ASYLUM.**

The Eastern Asylum for the Insane is completed. It is substantially built and pleasantly located near the city of Pontiac, and has capacity for 400 lunatics. It was constructed at a cost of \$448,903 36, and its arrangements and equipments are such as to furnish the most approved means and appliances for the treatment of persons afflicted with the terrible disease of insanity. The building reflects credit upon the commissioners and superintendent who have had its construction in charge.

I constituted the commissioners, with the addition of ex-Gov. Baldwin, trustees for the management of the asylum, and they selected Dr. M. Hurd, of Kalamazoo, as medical superintendent.

It was opened for the reception of patients on the first day of August last, and has received by transfer from Kalamazoo 222, and from other sources 91 inmates. With its well-arranged conveniences and its corps of skilled physicians, the institution must accomplish good results. The Board of Trustees ask an appropriation for 1879 and 1880, aggregating \$63,389 42, full details of which may be found in their report.

**INSTITUTION FOR THE DEAF AND DUMB.**

The Institution for Educating the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind contained on the 30th day of September last 257 pupils, of whom—were blind and the remain-

der mutes. I am gratified to inform you that, while the general tone and condition of the institution has improved, its financial showing indicates that its resources have been carefully husbanded. It comes before you with no deficiency, but for the first time in its history with an overplus, to be covered back into the treasury. The trustees seek an appropriation of \$61,938 for current expenses for the two years to come, and \$6,300 for certain necessary repairs and improvements, the total of which is less than the amount appropriated two years ago. I think the sum desired is not above the needs of the institution, and should be granted.

The trustees likewise recommend an appropriation of \$10,000 for constructing on the premises a separate building for the use of the blind.

**EDUCATION.**

The Superintendent of Public Instruction has furnished me with the following

**SCHOOL STATISTICS:**

	1877.	1878.
No. of children between 5 and 20 yrs. of age.....	469,444	474,990
No. of children enrolled in public schools.....	357,139	357,815
Percentage of attendance on enrollment.....	.78	.76
Approximate No. not attending any school.....	103,347	108,175
Whole number of school districts.....	5,947	6,060
Number of graded schools.....	295	310
Whole number of school houses.....	6,078	6,129
Whole number of teachers employed.....	13,001	13,378
Total cost for instruction (teachers' salaries).....	\$1,934,960 86	\$1,774,013 72
Total cost for all public schools.....	\$1,799,976 06	\$2,986,139 20

**INSTITUTE ITEMS.**

	1877.	1878.
No. of Teachers' Institutes held.....	74	47
Total enrollment at Teachers' Institutes.....	19,448	2,963
Total expense for Institutes.....	\$1,945 63	\$5,460 63
Amount of county Institute aid expended.....	441 90	3,915 63
Aid from State Treasury to Institutes.....	1,503 63	1,545 00

It will be perceived that we pay most liberally for education, and yet with our great munificence we fail to bring all our children under the advantage of instruction, even in the lower branches of learning. A large number attend school for only a brief period, while a few are growing up without any schooling at all. The ending sought to be attained is the instruction of every child of the State in the elementary studies, and success will not be complete until this is an accomplished result. While our system of teaching is in the main excellent, thoughtful observers declare that it is wanting in thoroughness. Children are pushed too rapidly, and as a consequence acquirements are always superficial. More of our national and State history, it seems to me, might be taught to advantage. The latter abounds in romantic and instructive events that every citizen should be familiar with. The early explorations of the vast West, the French traders as they skirted the great lakes in their light canoes; the zeal of the Marquette and Jesuit Fathers in their efforts to convert the Indians; the career of Pontiac and of Tecumseh, those great chiefs of savage chieftains; the struggle between France and England for the control of our territory; the war of 1812, with the surrender of Hull; the massacre at the River Raisin, and the successful campaigns of General Harrison, as well as the struggles and triumphs of our later pioneers, furnish frequent instances of marked endurance, bravery, and patriotism, worthy of study and remembrance.

**MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY.**

The University is the oldest and foremost educational institution in Michigan. It has a history long and intimate, identified with the progress of the State. Not a few of its professors have been eminent as authors and scholars. It has enrolled and educated a great number of men of influence and mark. It has been progressive in its tendencies, and justly holds high rank throughout the land. Like all educational institutions, it has had its struggles and trials, but still it has been to us a source of growth, largely drawing to our midst persons of culture and wealth. We rejoice in its achievements, and have a deep interest in all that concerns its welfare. While its endowment is considerable, it is not sufficient to carry on its work without aid from the Legislature. I trust, therefore, that it may receive appropriations, not lavish, but adequate to its actual needs.

**AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.**

The Agricultural College grows in favor. It has become more thoroughly identified with the farming interests of the State, and stands on a better footing than ever before. The whole number of students in attendance during the last year was 234, and the graduates 33. The managers ask an appropriation for current expenses of \$6,274 80 for each of the two years 1879 and 1880, and a special appropriation of \$15,938 32 for each of the said two years for buildings, improvements and extraordinary expenses; a full statement of which will be found in their report. They further solicit an appropriation of \$13,600 00 for the construction of a new hall, with a view to the education of females and the co-education of the sexes at the College, the reasons for which will be found duly assigned.

**STATE NORMAL SCHOOL.**

The State Normal School continues its useful work of training teachers for the common schools. The whole number of students in attendance in 1877 was 648, and in 1878, 608. The number graduated in both years 184. The estimated current expenses for the payment of eight professors and four teachers, with janitor, for each of the years, 1879 and 1880, is \$18,795, and for incidental expenses \$5,505. The interest on the endowment fund is estimated at \$4,200, and the receipts from tuition and for diplomas at \$1,800, leaving an appropriation of \$18,300 for each year, providing steam heating apparatus, the construction of the school. The amount asked is about the same as has heretofore been allowed.

The last Legislature appropriated \$80,000 for the construction of an additional building. This has been put up at a cost, including architects' charges and building supervision, of \$32,115 29. In addition to this, steam heating apparatus has been purchased to the amount of \$3,990, the old building remodeled, and a tower partly built in connection therewith at a cost of about \$7,241 89, making a total expenditure of \$43,347 18. Of this sum \$30,000 was paid by the appropriation, \$2,105 50 by contributions of citizens of Ypsilanti toward the construction of the tower, and the remainder, \$11,241 35, from savings in the current expense fund of the school accumulated during the last five years, leaving no deficiency to be made up by appropriation from the Legislature. The board ask a special appropriation of \$15,560, to be expended in finishing the tower, providing steam heating apparatus for the old building, grading grounds, purchasing new furniture, and various other items which will be laid before you for your consideration and scrutiny.

**RAILROADS.**

We have 40 corporations owning or operating railroads. They represent a railroad mileage of 5,967 miles, of which 3,539 miles are entirely within the territorial limits of this State. This line of railway has been constructed almost

wholly within the last 40 years. At the close of the year 1838 we had, of completed road, 63 miles; in 1848 we had 326 miles; in 1858 we had 703 miles; in 1868 we had 1,124 miles, while now we have as stated 3,539 miles. There was constructed in the first five years of the last decade, from 1863 to 1874, 2,128 miles, or nearly two-thirds of our entire railroad mileage. During the past five years there have been built and put in operation only 287 miles, of which 44 were built in 1877 and 84 in 1878.

The companies that reported officially for the year 1877, show an aggregate liability of funded and unfunded debt of \$167,271,421 62, with an aggregate capital stock of \$145,827,661 76, or a total of stock and debt of \$313,799,083 41. I have no accurate data as to the amount of the precise amount of this capital invested within this State. If it could be assumed that it would bear its relative proportion of the whole it would then be about \$167,000 000.

This immense amount of capital engaged in the transportation of passengers and merchandise adds greatly to the wealth of the State and to the convenience of its citizens, and is entitled to your fostering care and protection. It has been invested under rights and privileges granted by your predecessors, and should not be unjustly or unnecessarily interfered with. But, in the exercise of your control, it is alike your duty to see that the interests of the public are protected and that such capital is restrained from any abuse of its franchises, or infringement on the rights of others. The stockholder and the bondholder, the producer and the shipper are equally entitled to your protection. We have no cause of complaint in regard to the cost of transporting passengers and freight. Local rates have been as low as not lower than in our neighboring States. But as one of the States over whose lines of railroad the immense productions of the West are transported to the sea-board, in the obtaining of which there has been and is continuing to be very active competition by railroad companies, there is danger that the local rates and thus increase the cost of our own products. I recommend this subject for your thoughtful consideration, trusting if you take action thereon it will only be after mature consideration and with careful regard for the rights of all.

The railroad corporations in the State have been organized as common carriers with a view of providing equal facilities to all, without discrimination in favor of any. This right can only be maintained by the corporations themselves, and their agents and servants, at all times avoiding the business of purchasing articles for transportation over their own roads, and refraining from giving to any individual special privileges over others either in the form of reduced rates, or rebates. I suggest whether it is not desirable to prohibit by law any agent or servant of a railroad company from buying or selling any articles of merchandise as a business in competition with others to be transported over its road, and also to provide against discrimination in favor of individuals.

During the last few years there has been a difficulty in enforcing the law in regard to fencing upon railroads operated by receivers or lessees. Our laws evidently never contemplated that individuals would be permitted to operate railroads in this State, and therefore imposed no penalties upon such persons, while they do upon corporations. In many cases remedy by penalty is inadequate to reach the object desired, corporations or persons operating the roads being entirely irresponsible. I would suggest whether it would not be well to amend the law in this regard so as to make it a condition precedent to the continued operation of a road that the same should be constructed within a given time, and thereafter maintained, and that all persons operating railroads should be made liable to the same penalty.

The office of Commissioner of Railroads was established for the purpose, among other things, of arriving at an authentic report of the transactions of railroad corporations, with a view to legislation in regard to their rights and the interests and protection of the public. This system has also been adopted in many of our sister States, and, without doubt, of very great value. It is, therefore, the laws against such corporations. To return to the companies to the office of the Commissioner of Railroads, and the subjects on which such returns shall be made, are quite specifically defined in our law. But as quite a number of railroads form parts of continuous lines in other States, it has been thought desirable to adopt a uniform system from the railroad companies for each of such States; and as the authenticity and value of such returns must depend upon the system of book-keeping adopted by the several companies, it has also been thought desirable to prescribe a uniform system of book-keeping for railroad companies. A meeting for railroad companies on this subject was held at Columbus, O., on the 12th of November last, at which 10 States were represented, and a committee was appointed to recommend a system of accounts and returns, and to report at an adjourned meeting, to be held in June next. I call your attention to this action for the purpose of suggesting that our law in this regard may be so far modified as to authorize the Commissioner of Railroads to carry out the action of this convention.

In accordance with the direction of the Legislature of 1877, proceedings have been taken and are now pending to test the claim of the State of Michigan, Shore & Michigan Southern Railway Company for the amount of certain specific taxes claimed to be due and unpaid. MACKINAC AND MARQUETTE RAILWAY. The Legislature of 1875, impressed with the importance of more intimately connecting by railroad communication the Upper and Peninsula of the State with the Lower, reserved from sale 1,325,965 acres of land to be given to any company who might proceed and construct, within a specified time, a continuous line of railroad from the Straits of Mackinac to the city of Marquette. This valuable land grant was deemed sufficient encouragement to secure the early completion of the proposed railroad, and would, without doubt, have accomplished this result had not the financial crises practically suspended railroad building throughout the country. At various times responsible parties seemed to take hold of the enterprise and push it, but by reason of the commercial depression failed to do so.

In May, 1876, the Board of Control entered into a contract with the Marquette, Sault Ste. Marie and Mackinaw Railroad Company for the construction of this road, but no immediate steps were taken to build it. On the 14th day of May, 1877, the Legislature further continued the grant and extended the time for the completion of the road to December 31, 1879. Last winter the company with which the contract was made claimed to have perfected an arrangement for securing means for the immediate construction of the road. Its agents, Dr. W. W. Laman, gave most positive assurance that they had been negotiated, and that, with the opening of the navigation, work would commence at various points on

Continued on seventh page.



## THE NEW CAPITOL.

The new State Capitol at Lansing was dedicated January 1st. The exercises opened with music by the Lansing Light Guard Band, followed by Prayer by Bishop Gillispie.

The oath of office was next administered to the Governor and Lieutenant-Governor by Chief Justice Campbell.

ADDRESS OF EX-GOVERNOR FELCH.

Ex-Governor Felch was then introduced by Gov. Croswell as the oldest ex-Governor and the oldest ex-Senator in the State. Mr. Felch, in a clear voice and with strong utterance, read the following address:

YOUR EXCELLENCY, FRIENDS AND FELLOW CITIZENS: The occasion which brings us together in this hall is one of no ordinary interest. It is the period designated by our State constitution when both executive and legislative power passes into new hands. The same popular will which entrusted it to their predecessors commits it now to the keeping of agents selected by the same popular suffrage, or renews its commission to the faithful and the true. It is the result of that glorious feature of a free representative government—choice of rulers by the sovereign will of the people—change of officials, with no change of principles by which they are to be guided—no revolution, no revolution.

We have just heard the administration of the official oath, in this presence, to the chief executive officer of the State. To me this inauguration is a most impressive scene. Ever since the establishment of our government—more than 40 years ago—this same oath has been administered on every occasion of the incoming of a new administration. It imposes duties neither light nor trivial. The pledge to support the constitution in its true and broadest sense, and to perform faithfully the duties of the executive office, is the solemn assumption of the highest responsibilities, and all feel the propriety of the solemn appeal to the Most High in assuming them. And while I listen to its measured words, I turn to you, my fellow-citizens, and seem to hear from the lips of every one in this great assembly the response, I too will support the Constitution of the U. S. and of the State of Michigan, and in my more humble sphere, will faithfully perform my duty to the Commonwealth. And even from beyond the walls of the Capitol, from the lips of our fellow-citizens throughout the State, I seem to listen to the same impressive words joining in one common pledge to our country's welfare. [Applause.]

But this session presents other most interesting features. We enter to-day this new Capitol of our State. Hitherto the government may be said to have dwelt in tents—to-day it enters its permanent temple; and as its portals are thrown open to the several departments of the government, and we congratulate ourselves on the auspicious occasion, the history of past progress comes vividly before our minds.

It was on the 3d day of November, 1835, that Steven T. Mason, the first Governor of the State of Michigan, took the official oath under the first constitution. Although not recognized by Congress as an admitted member of the Federal Union until January, 1837, the State of Michigan practically dates its existence from the organization of 1835. This period of over 43 years has been marked by wonderful and almost magic changes.

The population, then less than 90,000, has constantly increased, until by an addition of some 1,400,000, it numbers more than 1,500,000 people.

The State, mindful of its duty to the unfortunate, has scattered over its territory noble institutions for the alleviation of their sorrows. The asylums for the insane, the deaf, the dumb and the blind, are the outgrowth of our State organization; and the ample provision for the unfortunate poor in every county attests how well the duty of the public to the individual citizen has been performed.

The educational interests of the State have been liberally fostered and most wisely directed. No State in the Union has established throughout her domain more numerous and more noble institutions of learning. Wherever settlers, whether few or many in numbers, have fixed their abode, the school-house and the teacher are their near neighbors, and the standard of instruction is nowhere higher than here. And when we turn to the institutions of higher education, we can but congratulate ourselves on the eminent character which they have attained. At the head of them all—I speak with due acknowledgement of the great merits of others also—stands that noble State institution, the University of Michigan, an institution whose growth is a marvel, whose history has no parallel, whose sons have already become a power in the land, whose eminence challenges and receives such general admiration from abroad, and whose promise of future usefulness was never so bright as to-day. The meagre fund in land conceded by the Federal Government for a University might easily have been squandered and lost, as has happened in many other States having the same endowment; but here, through all its perils, it has been guarded, nursed and fostered with a watchful care and zeal almost without parallel. All honor to the early Governors of the State who stood so firmly by the fund, and whose recorded messages transmit to us most ample proofs of the zealous care with which they guarded the treasure, and the wisdom and success with which they labored to build up an institution of learning as never an institution of learning was built up before. All honor to the successors of these early friends who have never ceased to foster and aid it as the child and the glory of the State.

This period of time since our State organization has wrought its changes all about us. Where then we stand in the uncultivated wilderness, we stand now amid the beauties that pertain to an old and well cultivated country. The forest has receded, and fields laden with rich harvests and smiling with the thousand charms and com-

forts of prosperous agricultural life stretch themselves out on every side. Railroads, almost unknown in 1835, now intersect nearly every portion of the State. Rich mineral deposits have been discovered and the mines have yielded up their stores of wealth. The forests have supplied their treasures. Machinery of every kind is everywhere busy, and all the industrial arts with every modern invention and every newly discovered power of nature, are at work. Is it wonderful then that everywhere in town and country alike the present should be so unlike the past? They who best remember the condition of things at the organization of the State can best appreciate, in view of the present, the wonderful change that has taken place. We behold then the beautiful peninsula such as nature had made it, little changed by the hand of man; we now behold the organized State, with its cities and its towns and its noble institutions, glorying in the wealth, the population and the prosperity of an older State. [Applause.]

If these years have brought such marked changes within our territorial limits, the changes in our outside relations are no less remarkable.

Michigan and Arkansas were admitted together to the sisterhood of the States. Twenty-four States then constituted the Federal Union. Twelve new States, covering an immense extent of territory, have since been organized and taken their places as members of the Union.

The nation is no longer the same. Since the time referred to, broad extents of country have been added to her territorial limits. On the west, Mexico and Russia have ceded large regions of country washed by the waves of the Pacific Ocean. Texas, with a territory wide enough to constitute kingdoms, has come under the national jurisdiction. And the almost limitless country lying between the slopes of the Nevadas on the west, and the great lakes on the East, partitioned into convenient portions, presents itself now as organized States and Territories. We glory in the rapid march of national progress, and we rejoice with the knowledge that the period of the existence of our State is a memorable era in the advance of our nation, and that although her form of government is widely different from all foreign nationalities, she stands in the first rank of the powers of the earth.

No region of this vast national domain has had a more interesting history than our own Michigan. In early times it felt the power and yielded to the jurisdiction of more than one foreign sovereign. One of the most formal acts of taking possession of a great country that history records, had its scene within our borders. In 1701 the representatives of Louis XIV. of France stood in the midst of the congregated Indians of the Northwest, and around him were priests in the rich vestments of their order, and His Majesty's soldiers equipped and glittering in their uniforms and their arms. The consecrated cross was raised, and the loud anthem broke upon the ear. Then at its side, with great form and ceremony, a cedar post was erected with the royal arms attached, and the representative of the king, holding his sword in one hand and raising a sod of earth with the other, proclaimed with a loud voice, in the name of his master the most high, mighty and redoubtable monarch, Louis the Fourteenth, most Christian King of France, that he took possession of all the country round about, from the great lakes to the South Sea, declaring to all the nations therein that they were vassals of his majesty and bound to obey his will, and prohibiting all that where not his dutiful subjects—all potentates, princes, sovereigns and republics—from entering into or infringing upon his majesty's domain.

If pomp and ceremony and bold proclamation could always secure permanent success, the banner of France would still wave over our territory. As it was, the French monarch held the country subject to his scepter until 1763; and during that interval of time the Governor General of Canada administered its affairs. Then British sovereignty succeeded, and until 1783 the British flag floated over it, and British governors were its rulers. Then succeeded the territorial organization, under the American flag, which covered the region—first as a part of the great Northwestern territory, then as a portion of Indiana; then the territory of Michigan, and finally succeeded the State.

The complexity of our nation with foreign powers in regard to our territorial domain is a curious item in our history. Within our present national limits France, England, Spain, the Dutch, Mexico and Russia have severally, at some time, had jurisdiction and possession of portions of our soil, but these, by honorable national arrangements, have finally been relinquished, and our cherished form of free and representative government has taken the place of all of them.

It was my fortune, just 33 years ago, in obedience to the suffrages of my fellow citizens, to take the official oath as Governor of Michigan. As I look through the intervening years that lie between that and the present similar occasion, I seem to be carried back to the very origin of our State—almost to the very fountain head whence flow the sweet waters of our prosperity. From the adoption of the State constitution to the occasion to which I have referred, three individuals only had occupied the executive chair. I should do injustice to my feelings and be false to my sentiment of veneration if I failed to speak in this assembly the revered names of Mason and Woodbridge and Barry.

They were the first to be honored with this high position, and they were worthy to bear the first honors. They were called to arduous duties in the infancy of the republic—to organizing the State Government, and to moulding and forming and establishing its new institutions, but each was competent to the task, and each successfully performed it.

No man, whose memory runs back to

that period, will ever forget the youthful Mason, ardent, chivalric, accomplished, alert in the performance of every duty—a boy in years, but in judgment a man of mature wisdom. Almost worshipping the State of his adoption, he was himself the idol of his fellow-citizens. His messages and the record of his administration will show how bravely he battled against error, how firmly he stood against all wrong, how strenuously, yet in the kindest temper, he urged the measures which he deemed most beneficial to the rising State.

And not less prominently before us rises the venerable form of Gov. Woodbridge. A man mature in years, of great mental power, of the most refined culture, an able lawyer and statesman, he proved himself equal to every emergency, and bore most worthily the many honors conferred upon him.

And Governor Barry stands worthily in the company of these his compeers a man of mark and merit. Laborious, in the performance of official duty, zealous in his care for the public interests, studying and enforcing the strictest economy in times of public embarrassments, and always seeking the greatest good of the State, the confidence of the community in him never diminished, and their repeated calls for his return to the executive office attest the strength of the hold which he continued to have upon the affections of the public.

Many noble men have succeeded these in the same official positions, and have both deserved and secured the approval and the gratitude of their constituency; but in the long list of names none more worthy are found than these, the earliest of our standard bearers.

But they are with us no longer. They and their worthy co-workers also, with few exceptions, have passed to the assemblage of the great majority beyond the verge of life. We cast fresh flowers on their graves, and turn to the present and the future.

Let me congratulate you, my fellow citizens, on the auspicious occasion of opening the new Capitol of our State. This beautiful structure is not built for the present alone, but for the future also. Its solid foundations and its massive walls proclaim stability and permanency. It is to be the lasting abode of the three branches of our government—the Executive, the Legislative and the Judicial—and its portals, opened to-day, receive them within its walls. Here is the council-house where public measures must be discussed and determined. Here is the place where the wrongs of the citizen must be righted and his rights defended and protected. It is a just demand of the great public that wise and beneficent laws should come from the Legislative Department, a firm and true administration of its appropriate duties from the Executive, and from the Judicial Department that faithful, intelligent and impartial distribution of justice which shall fall like a blessing upon the land. [Applause.]

May this capitol, in the solidity of its structure and the indestructibility of its materials, prove a fitting emblem and a happy augury of the permanency of the republic. It would be far better that its proud walls should be overthrown and its solid foundation stones be ground to powder and scattered to the winds, than that any sacrilegious hand should mar the foundation principles of our republic. Error writes its record on unstable water, but permanency is inscribed upon every great truth and every just principle.

My faith is strong in the perpetuity of our system of free government, based as it is on human rights and the welfare of the human family.

We cannot know what the future may bring forth; but for myself, as I fix my eyes upon the cloud that rests over it, I see it illuminated by the bright bow of promise, and in cheerful hope and confidence I am content to commit the treasure to the keeping of those who shall come after us. [Applause.]

### EX-GOVERNOR GREELEY

Confined his remarks principally to a history of the removal of the State Capitol from Detroit to Lansing.

### EX-GOVERNOR BLAIR

Made an extempore address, in which he said:

As has been very excellently said already, we are moving to-day into a new State Capitol, a building somewhat larger and more imposing than that in which those of us who went before were obliged to perform the public business. I hope that it is only an evidence that the State itself has broadened out somewhat in its ideas.

I congratulate you upon what has been done. But I desire more particularly to call your attention to some other things that need to be done. There are enough to tell you, and always will be, of all the fine and beautiful things we have done; of the magnificent buildings we have erected, the magnificent system of schools which we have established, the benevolent institutions which cover our state—which are all exceedingly well in their way. But the duty never departs from us to take care that these are properly administered. For if we don't, that which was intended as a blessing, and ought to be, becomes a curse. You remember, perhaps, the remark of Alexander Pope. He says:

"For forms of government let fools contest,"

"That which is best administered is best."

And that has a world of truth in it.

"That which is best administered is best." It is the administration after all. We are all patriotic, I suppose, and design well, and we all would be glad, at least, to be wise if we could; but in looking at the past we ought to see what we need for the future. And as we all became convinced at last that we needed a new Capitol, and the people have been willing to spend \$1,500,000, or something like that in building it, I congratulate them that they have done a most excellent thing. And now I ask them if, having gone so far, they do not think that they could afford—this great and magnanimous people of Michigan, organized in such a wonderful way, accomplishing such amazing

results—do you not think they could afford to give the Governor, hereafter, about half as good a salary, at least, as they pay to a common dry goods clerk almost anywhere in Lansing? [Tremendous applause and laughter.] The Ex-Governor continued at considerable length in an earnest plea for an equitable salary for Judges, and closed with words of hope and encouragement for the future.

### EX-GOV. BALDWIN'S ADDRESS.

Mr. Baldwin was introduced as the Governor who first proposed the construction of the new Capitol and under whom the enterprise was inaugurated. He spoke as follows:

We are here to-day in answer to an invitation from the Governor of the State. The occasion which calls us together is one of interest to every citizen of Michigan. Another milestone is to be set up to mark the progress of the State, and it may not be amiss that we recall to memory some of the historical incidents connected with the growth and advancement of our noble commonwealth.

For nearly two centuries the territory which is now the State of Michigan was a part of the jurisdiction of Canada, belonging to France until the year 1760, then to Great Britain, until by the treaty of peace of 1783 it became a part of the territory of the United States, but it was surrendered, and did not actually become an American possession until 1796.

It was a part of the Northwestern Territory organized under the ordinance of 1787, with Cincinnati as its first seat of government, and Arthur St. Clair as its first Territorial Governor.

Michigan next became a part of the new Territory of Indiana, organized in 1802, with Vincennes as its seat of government, and Gen. Wm. Henry Harrison as its Governor. This connection continued but a short time, as the Territory of Michigan was organized in 1805, with Detroit as the seat of government and Gen. William Hull as its first Governor. The legislative power was committed to the Governor and three judges appointed by Congress. The Governor and judges met for the first time in July of that year, at the Indian Council House in Detroit, and the Government of Michigan commenced its existence. The population of the Territory was about 3,000. In 1820 it had increased to 8,896; in 1830 to 31,639.

The first county organization embracing any portion of the State of Michigan was made in 1796, when Wayne county was set apart. The county seat was somewhat larger then than now, as it covered the whole of the subsequent Territory of Michigan and a part of the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin.

The right of suffrage did not exist in the Territory until, by an act of Congress, in 1819, the people were authorized to elect a delegate to Congress. The elective franchise was still further extended, in 1823, by an act of Congress authorizing the election of a Legislative Council, to consist of nine members, to be appointed by the President from eighteen persons to be chosen by the people.

In 1834 the population of the territory had increased to 87,000, sufficient to warrant a State organization. In January, 1835, an act was passed by the Legislative Council authorizing a convention to form a Constitution. The convention met and framed a Constitution, which was adopted by the people in October. State officers and a Legislature were elected at the same time. The Legislature met in November of the same year, with Steven T. Mason as the first Governor of the State.

A contest having arisen between Ohio and Michigan as to the boundary line between the two States, the famous "Toledo war" occurred. The boundary question was eventually settled by Ohio getting Toledo, and Michigan receiving its territory in the Upper Peninsula as an equivalent.

In 1823 an edifice of brick, designed for a court house, was erected in Detroit, and used as the Territorial and State Capitol until 1847, when, by an act of the Legislature, the seat of government was removed to Lansing.

The second State House—the one just abandoned—a plain frame building erected in 1847, was occupied by the Legislature of 1848, and by each subsequent Legislature until the present one. It still stands a monument of the wise economy of those days.

The Governor, in his message to the Legislature of 1871, called the attention of that body to the necessity for the erection of a new State Capitol. The recommendation resulted in the passage of an act providing for the erection of a new State House, and a building for the temporary use of the State officers, and for the appointment of a board of State Building Commissioners. Appropriations were made in the same act for the temporary building, for cost of plans, and \$100,000 towards the new Capitol.

At an extra session of the Legislature, in March, 1872, additional appropriations amounting to \$1,100,000 were made, intended with the previous appropriation to cover the whole cost of the building.

In July of 1872 a contract was made for the construction of the whole building. And we are here to-day to unite in congratulations with His Excellency the Governor, the State officers, the Houses of the Legislature and the Board of State Building Commissioners under whose intelligent and faithful supervision the beautiful, commodious and substantial edifice in which we are now assembled has been successfully constructed and completed, an edifice every way fitting and worthy of being the capitol of our growing and prosperous State for centuries to come. [Applause.]

Nearly eight years have passed and a million and a half of dollars have been expended on this stately edifice, and we rejoice in being able to congratulate the people of Michigan upon the fact that this great work was honestly begun and has been honestly completed, and that every dollar of its cost has been promptly paid without contracting debt and without being in any

sense a burden to the people. [Applause.]

We are the citizens of a commonwealth with a fertile territory large enough for an empire, with advantages of location and internal resources almost unequalled, with an intelligent and industrious population of one and a half million of people, with noble institutions for educational, beneficent and reformatory purposes; goodly foundations have been laid, and to-day marks, as it were, a new epoch in the history of Michigan by the completion and occupation of this new State house, now "to be dedicated to the enactment and administration of such equal laws as will tend to establish justice and to secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity for all time." [Applause.]

### ADDRESS OF EX-GOVERNOR BAGLEY.

The completion of the beautiful building we this day dedicate as our State House is indeed a source of pride to every citizen of Michigan. As we move "out of the old house into the new," we are proud that we were content with the old, simple and modest as it was, narrow and contracted as it became, until we could build anew by self-imposed taxation freely paid by a willing and generous people. We are proud that it is paid for—that the roof over our head, and the hearth-stone under our feet are not mortgaged to the future. We are proud of the example the State has given to us, as individuals and communities; glad for the lesson it has taught us of fidelity, economy and prudence. We remember, too, with pride, that the wise behests of our fathers, as given to us in the organic law, that universal education should be provided for, that institutions for the unfortunate should always be maintained—were first obeyed—that no expenditure for luxury, ornament or comfort has been made, until our institutions of education, charity, persuasion and punishment have first been completed. Within the lifetime of a single generation, all these things we have faithfully done. And now, rounded out as this lifetime is, by the completion of this our State-House, our hearts swell with honest pride in our beloved State; our hopes for its future are buoyant and bright; and with heartfelt gratitude to the Ruler of nations for the blessings that have so constantly abided with us, we devoutly ask for all the coming years that "peace may be within thy walls, and prosperity within thy palaces."

Who of us to-day is the poorer for the expenditures of the State in its institutions? rather, who of us is not richer for them? If the old proverb, "what a man gives, and what he consumes is his real wealth," be true; then Michigan is rich indeed.

The State is not only grand in its acres, but in its aims—it is not great in its cities, but in its citizenship—it is not rich alone in its wealth, but in its wisdom. Upon these foundations we have built the Commonwealth, and upon these it shall stand forever.

In this new and beautiful home for all the departments of our State Government, let us highly resolve that legislation shall be for the common good; that the people shall not be forgotten in their rights, nor made un-mindful of their duties; that all men of all conditions, creeds, color or circumstances, are citizens and neighbors and deserve equal care and thought, from our law-makers. Build no barriers; create no classes; but hold in one embrace, poor and rich, wise and ignorant, native and foreign-born, employer and laborer. In the things that can only be done by associations or corporations, demand the same duties that are demanded of the individual; grant the same rights—and no more—that we would to the individual.

Legislation enacted in this spirit and administered in this spirit, will, indeed, make the dream of the poet a reality:

"When the State-House is the hearth,  
Then the perfect time has come—  
The Republic at home."

Our pioneer fathers, whose eyes feasted upon the virgin beauty of the State, its lakes and streams, its prairies and openings, its lovely valleys, its grand forests and generous soil, charmed with the prospect, adopted as the motto of the State, "If thou seekest a beautiful peninsula, behold it here." And we do behold it, not as they saw it, but beautified and softened by the handiwork of their children who have dotted it all over with Home and School and Church. Let us see to it that our government, in all its branches, be so just, so wise, so beneficent that we may say, if thou seekest a beautiful peninsula, not in material things alone, but in good citizenship, in pure manhood and womanhood, in love of liberty, in belief in free institutions, in care of the unfortunate, in general and liberal education, behold it here! Some one has said "the walls that see us work and dream and hope are always to us the walls of a palace." May our work for Michigan, our dreams of Michigan, our hope for Michigan be such that the walls of our State House shall indeed be always to us the walls of a palace.

### REPORT OF THE BUILDING COMMISSIONERS.

The report of the Commissioners gave details as to the construction of the building, and the following statement as to expenditures:

The condition of the several appropriations for all purposes connected with the construction, steam-heating, electrician work, and other improvements of the capitol building, including that part of the furnishing of the State library, legislative halls and Supreme Court-room committed to this commission, and the improvement of grounds is as follows:

Amounts appropriated under the acts numbers 67 of 1871, and 4 of 1872, for construction.....	\$1,200,000 00
Of which has been expended.....	1,199,574 06
Leaving a balance of.....	425 94
Under section 1 of act number 9 of 1865, for steam heating and ventilation.....	70,000 00
Of which has been expended.....	688,472 68
Leaving a balance of.....	\$1,327 32
Under section 2 of the same act for changes in the roof, steps to porticos and interior finish.....	30,000 00
Of which has been expended.....	28,171 50
Leaving a balance of.....	1,828 50

Under act number 114, of '75, for constructing the main cornice and balustrade of stone, instead of galvanized iron, as provided in original specifications.....

All of which has been expended, the contract for that change having been awarded for the amount appropriated.

Under act number 37 of 1877, for electrician work and other improvements.....

Of which has been expended.....

Leaving a balance of.....

Being 10 per cent. on the contract for the electric lighting and annunciator work, which amount will be due and paid to the contractors upon the full completion and acceptance of their contract.

Under act No. 135 of 1877, for improvement of streets and grounds and furnishing.....

Of which has been expended.....

Leaving a balance of.....

The aggregate balance to this date being.....

Of which it is estimated that nearly \$4,000 will remain in the State Treasury after every obligation incurred by this board shall have been paid.

Mr. Grosvenor, on behalf of the Commissioners, said:

To the Honorable the Governor of the State of Michigan:

The Board of State Building Commissioners were appointed and commissioned to erect and complete a building suitable for a State Capitol. Having accomplished the task assigned to them, they have the honor to present this edifice, with all its appointments, complete from foundation to pinnacle dome, trusting it will be found fitting, convenient and secure, for the proper administration of the government of this great and growing State.

### ACCEPTANCE BY GOVERNOR CROSWELL

Governor Croswell responded as follows:

In behalf of the State, it gives me great pleasure to accept this Capitol building. It has been constructed in a substantial manner, affords ample accommodations for all departments of government, comports with the character of the Commonwealth, and is worthy to stand as an evidence of the taste, spirit and enterprise of this people.

To you, gentlemen of the Building Commission, has been entrusted the charge of this work from its inception to its completion. No change has taken place in your membership, and you all are here to-day to witness the full realization of your plans and your labors.

Although this building has been erected during a period when public confidence has been repeatedly shaken by efforts in many instances on the part of those in charge of public works to make them wrongfully contribute to personal gain, no aspersion of the kind has been charged here. All your expenditures have been gauged by the limits of your appropriations. You have been scrupulous in the discharge of the duties confided to you, and careful of the interests of the State. I believe I but express the general sentiment when I say that the structure reflects credit upon yourselves, upon the architect, the builders, and others associated with you in the enterprise, and that you are justly entitled to public thanks.

We now enter upon the formal occupation of this edifice. The way for its construction was prepared by those who, preceding us, incurred the privations of the pioneer, and laid here the foundations of a government designed to promote the general welfare. Their work is confided to us. If we aim to maintain liberty, advance morality, encourage labor, and banish ignorance, we will have been true to the trust. Our places are soon to be filled by others. No man, even with prophetic vision, can compass the future of Michigan. As population flows to her, and commerce increases her wealth, let us hope that from these walls may emanate the results of wise statesmanship, impartial justice and patriotic devotion to country. [Applause.]

### CONCLUSION.

The exercises closed with the benediction by Rev. F. P. Prudden.

In the evening, the building was brilliantly lighted, and the Gov. and his daughter held a reception at which a large concourse of citizens from all parts of the State were present. The scene was a most brilliant and joyous one, "Michigan, my Michigan," her institutions and progress, furnishing themes for conversation.

One of the richest young men in England, Mr. Henry Meux, who only came of age lately, having but just left college, has surprised his relatives by announcing his marriage—or rather his bride wrote the letter—to a lady with whom neither society nor any of his family had any previous acquaintance. The large brewing firm of Meux has been in existence in London for more than a century. The present owner, is a lunatic. Some idea of his wealth may be gathered from the fact that his sister, who has charge of him, receives £10,000 a year for his expenses. His wife has a jointure of £15,000 a year, and his son, the young man, receives from the Chancellor £50,000 a year as allowance. The savings from the business must amount to between two and three millions.

HOME.—Don't leave the old homestead too soon, children. Time will loose all the ties and break up the home circle soon enough without your being impatient. Cling to father and mother and home as long as you can; for in the future, when your youth is gone, and care drags heavily and the world looks coldly on, you will remember with a sickened heart, how they would comfort you at home, and will long with a weariness like unto death, to hear your father's voice, to lay your head upon your mother's shoulder, to rest for ever so little a season—safe, safe at home. Stay at home then, and keep the dear ties of kindred inviolate as long as you can.

The answer of Socrates to a person who asked when was the right time for dinner was the following: "If you are rich," said he, "you can dine when you like; and if you are poor, you can dine when you can."



SATURDAY, Jan. 11, 1879.

We print, this week, selections from the Michigan tax laws. Those persons who read them will notice many discrepancies between the laws and the execution of them. We would call attention especially to the last clause in section 13, and to sections 14, 19, and 25.

According to Mr. (it used to be Hon.) Burleigh's paper, training for wrestling and being put in condition for marriage requires about the same work.—*Sentinel*.

It was "Hon." about the time the *Sentinel's* article on Col. Burleigh was copied, so extensively by the independent county press.

The Senate Committee on the State Normal School is made up of men interested in education and thoroughly alive to the needs of the school. They were selected, evidently, because they were wise, judicious, and far-sighted men. They have no person and no hobby to serve, and at their hands the School will receive its deserts.

We can see no reason why the motion to instruct our Representative in the State Legislature to have the city charter amended so as to make the taxes payable annually instead of semi-annually should prevail. Most people find it hard enough to pay their taxes when those taxes are divided. The new plan of semi-annual collections, while it may cause a trifling loss in interest, suits the convenience of tax payers, and is worthy of a longer trial.

SEVERAL persons have made it known as their opinion that in the unjust assessment of taxes, the assessors, and not the law, are to blame. But if any one will give an instance of a State having tax laws similar to ours and in which taxes are fairly assessed, we will admit that we are wrong. To make a fair assessment requires the combined honesty and efficiency of all the assessors of the State. As it is, each assessor is commended when he gets the valuation of his county or town as low as possible, and then he is upbraided because he does not assess individuals high enough.

THE County of Washtenaw has every reason to be proud of the place assigned to its representative in the State Senate. The place of chairman of the Committee on Appropriations and Finance, the most important of the Senate committees, has been assigned to Mr. Childs, and the appointment is a just recognition of his familiarity with legislative business and his knowledge of the needs of the State. Mr. Childs will also serve as a member of the committees on Religious and Benevolent Societies, on Railroads, on Rules and Joint Rules, and on the Liquor Traffic. Washtenaw could not have sent to the Senate another man who could at once take such a leading position.

## PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES.

If we start with the principle laid down by Adam Smith and amended by Mill, that taxes should be assessed so that they shall fall on different individuals in proportion to their several abilities, then, theoretically, a tax on personal property is one of the most just of all taxes. The great objection, however, to a tax on personal property is the difficulty of collection. A large proportion of personal property, consisting, as it does, of stocks, bonds, etc., is so easily secreted as to escape taxation. Indeed, so great is the possibility of evasion that in Boston not more than thirty per cent. of the personal property is taxed, in the State of Connecticut only about forty per cent., and in New York City there are thirty men the sum of whose personal property is known to exceed by many millions the entire assessed value of personal property in that city. A glance over the tax rolls of our own city will convince any one that not half the personal property in Ypsilanti is taxed.

Now, as it would be manifestly unfair to take off the tax on personal property, and thus allow the most wealthy body of citizens to escape their just share of the support of the government, and also inasmuch as the present tax laws of this and other States afford ample opportunities for evasion, some new method for estimating the value of a man's personal property must be found.

In the report of the New York Commissioners on Taxation, which report was submitted to the legislature of that State in 1871, after a thorough discussion of the subject of the evasion of the tax on personal property, the commissioners recommended a new method of valuation as follows: "As an equivalent for all taxation of personal property, to tax the occupier, be he owner or tenant, of any building used as a dwelling, or for any other purpose, on a valuation of three times the rental, or rental value, of the premises occupied. Tenement houses occupied by more than one family, or tenement houses having a rental value not in excess of a fixed sum, to be taxed to the owner as occupier."

In the report of such a system of valuation, we quote Mr. Mill's remarks on the subject of a house tax: "No part of a person's expenditure is a better criterion of his means, or bears, on the whole, more nearly the same proportion to them [as does the value of the house he occupies.] A house-tax is a nearer approach to a fair income tax than a direct tax on incomes can easily be; having the great advantage that it makes spontaneously all the allowances which it is so difficult to make, and so impracticable to

make exactly, in assessing an income tax; for if what a person pays in house rent is a test of anything, it is a test, not of what he possesses, but of what he thinks he can afford to spend."

The great advantage of the proposed system is that, instead of a large number of items to be assessed, the majority of which items can be neither known nor exactly valued by the assessor, the entire valuation is made up on the basis of that one item which best shows both what a man is worth and what he feels that he can spend. Under the new system no evasion is possible, for rental value is always a known term; fluctuations in property, since they quickly show themselves in rents, are made allowance for; and the income from United States bonds, exempt under the present law, is taxed, thus placing all kinds of property on an equal footing.

The most weighty objection to the proposed change is that a miser might take advantage of it to turn his money into gold and silver, and, by living in a mean house, thus escape taxation. But the present law affords far more abundant opportunities for evasion. If a man has his money invested in stocks, those stocks would be taxed at the place of business. If the new law result in causing men to build less expensive houses, the money thus saved would go probably into the active capital of the country. The objection that the plan proposed would prevent men from acquiring a homestead is easily disposed of by omitting to assess houses below a certain value.

There has been a great deal of discussion throughout the State in regard to the inequality of our present tax laws, and we earnestly hope that the legislature will take the matter in hand this winter.

## ITEMS FROM THE COUNTY PRESS.

From the *Ann Arbor Register*.  
Zack Chandler is spoken of as a possible orator for the 22d of February.

Supervisor Krapf isn't pleased with the new Court House. In a speech before the Board last Thursday he alluded to the building in the following terms: "There she stands, with her false hair, her false teeth, and false bosom."

Rev. Samuel Day has held regular services at the jail for the past two or three Sundays. On Monday he circulated the red ribbon pledge among the inmates and secured thirteen signers. Only two or three persons refused to sign.

The following real estate transfers are reported:  
E. J. Bolio to Sophia C. O. Parsons, land on Front street, Ypsilanti: \$2,250.

A. Osborne to G. A. Markam, land in section thirty-four, township of Augusta.

The *Courier*, as the lowest bidder, received the contract for the printing of the proceedings of the Board of Supervisors of 1878. After the conclusion, Saturday, of the adjourned session Lorenzo Davis proceeded to the *Courier* office with the minutes of the said session, when he was informed that the additional proceedings would not be printed without extra compensation. The Supervisors had adjourned and many of them had left town, so no action could be taken. G. S. Wheeler, chairman of the Board, and others, however, expressed the opinion that they would refuse to accept the proceedings already printed and now ready for binding, unless Beal would complete the contract for the amount agreed to. He had contracted to print the proceedings of the Board of 1878, and the proceedings of the adjourned session were part of the proceedings of the Board of 1878.

During the year 1878, 271 marriages were recorded at the clerk's office. The oldest couple whose marriage was recorded was a groom of 68, a resident of Lima and a bride of 60, a resident of Chelsea. There were several other couples who were close to the one mentioned in the matter of ages. The youngest couple were aged 19 and 16 years respectively and both hailed from Ypsilanti; who furnished another bride of 16 years, with a husband of 23. There were other brides of sixteen years, whose husbands however, were so much older than themselves that the couple can scarcely be mentioned among the young couples. In the way of disparity of ages of husband and wife, Ypsilanti again furnishes the greatest phenomenon, a bride of 19 wedded to a groom of 52. Another Ypsilanti man, aged 65, found a wife in Wayne county aged 35. There were several marriages, the parties to which were seventeen, eighteen and nineteen years old.

From the *Saline Standard*.  
The dwelling of J. F. Avery, about one and one-half miles south of this place, was burned to the ground on Thursday morning about 4 o'clock.

County Clerk Clark, recently of this place, has filed a bond in the sum of \$8,000—\$5,000 as County Clerk and \$3,000 as Register in Chancery. G. B. Mason, John W. Blakely, W. H. Berdan, A. M. Clark and H. T. Nichols are his bondsman.

THE TAX LAWS.  
(CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE.)

the fifteenth section of this act; and thereupon said taxable person shall forthwith make and deliver to said supervisor a full and true statement of the taxable property in his possession, according to the provisions of this act; and immediately thereafter the said supervisor shall proceed to examine said property, and estimate and set down the true value thereof, the same being the price which could be obtained therefor at private sale, and not at forced or auction sale, and being the true cash value as defined in section thirteen of this act, deducting from the moneys at interest and other credits of such person, the amount of money upon which he or she pays interest, together with his other bona fide indebtedness, as set forth in said statement.

Sec. 19. In every case where any person shall neglect or refuse to make out and deliver a statement of his real and personal property, moneys, and credits, or to exhibit the same to the supervisor, as required by this act, it shall be the duty of said supervisor and he is hereby authorized to examine on oath the person so refusing, and any other person or persons who he may have good reason to believe and does believe have knowledge of the amount or value of any property, moneys, or credits owned or held by such person so refusing; and said supervisor shall assess any property, moneys, or credits, owned or held by such person so refusing, at its true cash value, as the same is hereinbefore defined. Provided, That if any person shall neglect or refuse to make such statement, or in case any person own-

ing any taxable property in this State, or any money loaned in this State, shall be absent from the township or cannot be found therein by the supervisor of such township, during the time the assessment roll is required by law to be made, leaving no agent known to such supervisor to make the required statement, such supervisor is hereby authorized to set down and assess to such person any amount of personal property he may deem just and proper, subject to reduction on review, upon oath of the party in interest, his agent, or attorney.

Sec. 25. When the supervisor has reviewed and completed the assessment roll, it shall be his duty to attach thereto, signed by him, a certificate, which may be in the following form: "I do hereby certify that I have set down in the above assessment roll, all the real estate in the township of \_\_\_\_\_, liable to be taxed, according to my best information, and that I have estimated the same at what I believe to be the true cash value thereof, and not at the price it would sell for at a forced or auction sale; that the said assessment roll contains a true statement of the aggregate valuation of the taxable personal estate of each and every person named in said roll, and that I have estimated the same at the true cash value, as aforesaid, according to my best information and belief."

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"Earth to earth and dust to dust."  
Sentence changeless from the first;  
High and low of every race,  
All the living doth embrace;  
All are passing like a dream,  
To oblivion's shoreless stream.

"Earth to earth, and dust to dust,"  
None the living can we trust;  
Monarch in his scepter'd sway  
And robes of purple cannot stay;  
King, or prince, or priest, he must  
Hear the sentence, "Dust to dust."

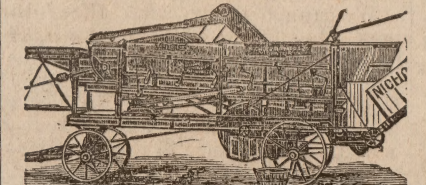
Infant in its mother's arms,  
Fondly watching she its charms—  
Father, mother, sister, son,  
Pass they swiftly, one by one;  
All are passing like a dream  
To oblivion's shoreless stream.

Art beheld the dreadful truth—  
Faded age and fading youth—  
Flying to the gates of morn,  
Sunbeams on her wings were borne;  
Back she joyous flew to earth,  
Tidings brought of countless worth,  
If but mortals would embrace,  
Perish not a form or face.

"Earth to earth, and dust to dust"—  
Come the dreaded sentence must;  
But to memories most dear,  
There is naught that man can rear,  
Monuments of marble stone,  
Rising obelisks alone  
Which fond memory will embrace  
Like the pictured form and face.



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not the organ of any person, class, sect, or party,  
there need be no mystery about its loves and hates.  
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time. It is for the honest Democrat as against the  
dishonest Republican, and for the honest Republican  
as against the dishonest Democrat. It does not seek  
its cue from the utterances of any politician or  
political organization. It gives its support unreservedly  
when men or measures are in agreement with the  
Constitution and with the principles upon which this  
republic was founded for the people. Whenever  
the Constitution and constitutional principles are  
violated, as in the outrageous conspiracy of 1876,  
which a man not elected was placed in the Presi-  
dential office, where he still remains—it speaks out  
for the right. That is THE SUN'S idea of independ-  
ence. In this respect there will be no change in its  
programme for 1879.

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It hopes to hold that hatred not less in the year 1879  
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both the disposition and the ability to offend, and  
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telligence of whatever in the wide world is worth  
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ployed.

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this country, and the uncertainty of the future, lend  
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ness the exact situation in each of its varying  
phases, and to expound, according to its well-known  
methods, the principles that should guide us through  
labirinths, will be an important part of THE SUN'S  
work for 1879.

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litical, a literary, and a general newspaper, more en-  
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PAIN in the right side, under the  
edge of the ribs, increases on pres-  
sure; sometimes the pain is in the left  
side; the patient is rarely able to lie  
on the left side; sometimes the pain  
is felt under the shoulder blade, and  
it frequently extends to the top of the  
shoulder, and is sometimes mistaken  
for rheumatism in the arm. The stom-  
ach is affected with loss of appetite  
and sickness; the bowels in general  
are costive, sometimes alternative with  
lax; the head is troubled with pain,  
accompanied with a dull, heavy sen-  
sation in the back part. There is gen-  
erally a considerable loss of memory,  
accompanied with a painful sensation  
of having left undone something which  
ought to have been done. A slight,  
dry cough is sometimes an attendant.  
The patient complains of weariness  
and debility; he is easily startled, his  
feet are cold or burning, and he com-  
plains of a prickly sensation of the  
skin; his spirits are low; and although  
he is satisfied that exercise would be  
beneficial to him, yet he can scarcely  
summon up fortitude enough to try it.  
In fact, he distrusts every remedy.  
Several of the above symptoms attend  
the disease, but cases have occurred  
where few of them existed, yet exami-  
nation of the body, after death, has  
shown the LIVER to have been exten-  
sively deranged.

AGUE AND FEVER.

DR. C. McLANE'S LIVER PILLS, IN  
CASES OF AGUE AND FEVER, when  
taken with Quinine, are productive of  
the most happy results. No better  
cathartic can be used, preparatory to,  
or after taking Quinine. We would  
advise all who are afflicted with this  
disease to give them a FAIR TRIAL.

For all bilious derangements, and  
as a simple purgative, they are un-  
equalled.

## BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.

The genuine are never sugar coated.  
Every box has a red wax seal on the  
lid, with the impression DR. McLANE'S  
LIVER PILLS.

The genuine McLANE'S LIVER PILLS  
bear the signatures of C. McLANE and  
FLEMING BROS. on the wrappers.

Insist upon having the genuine DR.  
C. McLANE'S LIVER PILLS, prepared by  
Fleming Bros., of Pittsburgh, Pa., the  
market being full of imitations of the  
name McLane, spelled differently but  
with same pronunciation.

Ayer's  
Hair Vigor,  
For restoring Gray Hair to  
its natural Vitality and Color.

A dressing  
which is at once  
agreeable,  
healthy, and ef-  
fectual for pre-  
serving the  
hair. Faded or  
gray hair is soon  
restored to its  
original color,  
with the gloss and freshness of youth.  
Thin hair is thickened, falling hair  
checked, and baldness often, though  
not always, cured by its use. Noth-  
ing can restore the hair where the  
follicles are destroyed, or the glands  
atrophied and decayed. But such as  
remain can be saved for usefulness  
by this application. Instead of foul-  
ing the hair with a pasty sediment, it  
will keep it clean and vigorous. Its  
occasional use will prevent the hair  
from turning gray or falling off, and  
consequently prevent baldness. Free  
from those deleterious substances  
which make some preparations dan-  
gerous, and injurious to the hair, the  
Vigor can only benefit but



Local Matters.

SATURDAY, Jan. 11, 1879.

YPSILANTI POST OFFICE.

MAILS ARRIVE.

East—9 and 11:30 A. M., 6:30 P. M.  
West—11:30 A. M., and 6 P. M.  
Hillsdale—6 P. M.

MAILS CLOSE.

East—10:30 A. M., 5 P. M.  
West—10:30 A. M., 6 P. M.  
Hillsdale—8:15 A. M.

Many if God should make them kings,  
Might not disgrace the crown He gave;  
How few who could with honor fill  
The humbler office of a slave!

I hold him great who, for Love's sake,  
Can give, with steadfast earnest will,  
But he who takes for Love's sweet sake,  
I think I hold more noble still.

Glorious it is to wear a crown  
Of deserved and pure success;  
He who knows how to fall, has won  
A crown whose lustre is not less.

—Adelaide A. Procter.

—Now that A. Holt is in the county jail for stealing, his wife and five children are thrown on the town for support, and the town has once declined to support them. The poor woman has no money to pay her rent, and none to buy food and fuel.

—The charge made by the *Sentinel*, that the assessors simply copy their old rolls, is shown to be incorrect by the fact that one poor woman in this city is made to pay a semi-annual tax of \$6.11, whereas her taxes for a whole year, on the same property, never before equalled that amount.

—The Light Guard elected the following civil officers at the annual meeting last Wednesday evening: President, Jos. H. Manning; Vice-President, Henry Beard; Secretary, Geo. N. Noyes; Treasurer, T. W. McAndrew; Hall Agent, Sam'l J. Vail; Board of Trustees, G. H. Gilmore, R. C. Haydon, and Henry Beard.

—The Ypsilanti City Band will give a masquerade ball at the Pollett House, on Thursday evening, Jan. 23. The Band hope, by means of this ball, to so fill their treasury as to be able to give Ypsilanti the best band the city has ever had. It is some time since there has been a fancy dress party in town, and the coming one promises to be in the highest degree enjoyable.

—Ditson & Company, of Boston, have recently published a "System of Piano-Forte Technique," by Wm. Mason; the object of which work is to overcome the variety and repetition of exercises, the carelessness of pupils in regard to the thorough and careful practice so essential to good playing. The book is composed in great part of scales and arpeggio exercises, carried out in various ways, and capable of being multiplied further by an intelligent student. One of its greatest advantages is the habit of mental concentration formed by the rhythmic treatment of mechanical exercises, which also contributes largely to clearness in playing.

—The Mission Circle of the Presbyterian church have again engaged the services of Miss Jessie Couthouli, the young reader, for some evening of the week following the 19th instant. Miss Couthouli's success in impersonations is certainly most assured, and she has the faculty of putting herself behind the character assumed to a marked degree, each recitation of her last performance here being given with evident dramatic talent. Perhaps the most unanimous verdict concerning the entertainment spoken of was the fact that the audience were kept interested during the whole evening, there being no time when their attention was not fully occupied and themselves richly amused. We prophesy a full house for the entertainment when the date and place shall be announced.

A. O. U. W.—Washtenaw Lodge, No. 17, has elected the following officers: M. W., H. R. Scovill; G. F., Martin Cremer; O., E. Washburne, Jr.; Recorder, Frank Joslin; P., Jas. H. McKinstry; Receiver, Wm. Robbins; G., J. H. Whitney; J. W., Warren Whitney; O. W., A. L. Corey; Physician, J. E. Post; Trustee, E. Washburne, Jr.; Representative to Grand Lodge, H. Batchelder.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.—On Friday evening, Jan. 3d, 1879, Ypsilanti Division installed its new officers for the ensuing term, as follows: W. P., Caleb S. Pitkin; W. A., Miss Mary Millsbaugh; R. S., James B. Forsyth; A. R. S., Miss Frances Gorton; F. S., Miss Kittie Ostrander; Treas., C. Goodwin; Con., J. E. Putney; A. Con., Miss Minnie Kimball; Ch., Mrs. J. C. Johnson; I. S., Henry A. Gage; O. S., C. J. Allen; P. W. P., Eugene Laible; Organist, E. W. Grant.

PARDON ASKED FOR.—The friends of George Henning are about to make an application to the Governor for a pardon. Henning is now in prison on a charge of manslaughter, for the killing of Nathan E. Rumsey, at Dexter, something over two years ago. He was sent to State prison for four years on a plea of guilty. As the real cause of Rumsey's death seems to be left in doubt, and as in any event the crime was not a flagrant one, and Henning has now been imprisoned over two years, there are strong hopes that the pardon will be granted.

—The following is a copy of a petition circulating in this city. We hope that it may obtain, as it deserves, the signatures of all good citizens:

To the Honorable, the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Michigan in Legislature Assembled:  
The undersigned, citizens of the ..... of Ypsilanti, in the county of Washtenaw, in the State of Michigan, believe that the traffic in intoxicating liquors endangers our lives and property; that it is

very destructive of health, happiness, virtue and intelligence of our people, and is the prolific source of an incalculable amount of domestic misery and public immorality and crime. We deem it wrong in principle and policy for government to seek to regulate this business by any system of license or tax, and earnestly entreat you to so legislate that the government of this Commonwealth may wash itself of all complicity with the liquor traffic.

Therefore as in duty bound your petitioners pray:  
FIRST: That you submit to the people a proposition to amend the Constitution of the State so as to interdict the traffic in intoxicating liquors, and render it impossible for the Legislature to legalize the business.

SECOND: That you enact a law, at your present session, completely prohibiting the manufacture and sale of all alcoholic liquors to be used for drinking purposes, with adequate penalties for its violation and provisions of its enforcement.

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

REGULAR MEETING.

MONDAY EVE., Dec. 30, 1878.

Council met.  
Mayor in the chair.  
Roll called.  
Present—Ald. Kishlar, Robbins, Roys, Cremer, Follmer, Smith, and Hutchinson.  
Reading of minutes dispensed with.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS.  
From Clerk:—  
That he had received the bond of City Marshal.  
Report accepted and bond approved.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.  
From Committee on Ways and Means:—  
The claim of Anna M. Van Cleave, recommending that the same be not allowed.  
Also, claim of Lee Yost, for making copy of tax roll, and favoring payment of same at full amount, \$52.00.  
Report accepted.

CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS.  
D. W. Thompson, wood lamp posts, etc. \$29 13  
Lee Yost, copy of tax rolls..... 52 00  
Ordered paid from Contingent Fund.  
Ayes—Ald. Kishlar, Robbins, Roys, Smith, Cremer, and Follmer—6. Nays—Ald. Hutchinson—1.  
A. Gilmore, care of poor..... \$4 50  
Ordered paid from Poor Fund.  
Ayes—Ald. Kishlar, Robbins, Roys, Cremer, Follmer, and Smith—6. Nays—Ald. Hutchinson—1.  
N. G. Kellogg, lighting lamps, December..... \$20 00  
Laid on the table.

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS.

By Ald. Cremer:—  
RESOLVED, By the Common Council of the city of Ypsilanti, that our Representative in the State Legislature be requested, at the coming session, to have the City Charter amended in the following respects:  
1st, To have Ward Street Funds in lieu of General or District Street Funds.  
2d, To have the taxes collected annually instead of semi-annually as at present.  
Laid on table for two weeks.

By Ald. Follmer:—  
RESOLVED, That the Marshal be instructed to employ a man to put the city lamps in order, and also to employ a man to light and care for the same at not exceeding \$50 per month.

Ald. Robbins moved to amend by making the price to be paid \$40.  
Ald. Hutchinson moved to amend the amendment by inserting \$45 in lieu of \$40.  
On motion of Ald. Robbins, tabled.

Ald. Hutchinson tendered his resignation as chairman of the Committee on Gas Lights.  
Accepted.

On motion, the Mayor was requested to fill vacancy caused by Ald. Hutchinson's resignation, and he appointed Ald. Robbins.

On motion, Ald. Smith was appointed a member of said Committee in place of Ald. Thayer, who cannot officiate owing to sickness.

On motion of Ald. Cremer, the Resolution of Ald. Follmer, relative to city lights, was taken from the table.

Ald. Robbins moved that the same be again tabled.  
Carried.  
Ayes—Ald. Kishlar, Robbins, Roys, and Smith—4. Nays—Ald. Cremer, Follmer, and Hutchinson—3.

On motion, Council adjourned to meet Monday evening, Jan. 13, 1879, at 7 o'clock.

C. R. WHITMAN,  
Deputy City Clerk.

—Theological students reason that if there be counterfeit money, there must be genuine; so, if there be infidels there must also be Christians. If this be true of money and religion, will not the same rule apply to "put up" medicines? Do not the cheap and worthless nostrums prove that there are genuine and meritorious "put up" medicines? The great popularity of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery has resulted in the manufacture of many shoddy alternatives and tonic remedies, but one after another these have disappeared, the proprietors having found that, no matter how loudly they advertise, success depends upon merit. In South America, as well as in this country, the Discovery is the standard remedy for all scrofulous and eruptive diseases. It acts promptly on the stomach, liver, and blood, toning up, regulating, and purifying the system. It speedily allays all bronchial irritation, and cures the most stubborn cough or cold in half the time required by any other remedy.

"NOTHING LIKE IT."

The fact that nearly all the diseases of the Throat and Lungs can be cured by the Great English Cough Remedy is now proved beyond a doubt, and the enormous sale which the Great English Cough Remedy has reached conclusively shows that the public have great faith in this Remedy for Coughs, Colds, Asthma, Bronchitis, &c. Every bottle is guaranteed, or money refunded by Dr. H. Van Tuyl.

LOCAL AND BUSINESS NOTICES.

—Who brayed there? asked a member of the Canadian House of Commons of the persons who were trying to interrupt him to silence him. "It was an echo," retorted a voice.

—Messrs. Schemel & Cook, at the depot, are manufacturing that superior brand of cigars known as the "Anchor."

—Notwithstanding the large sales during the holidays, Messrs. Roehm & Wright, of Detroit, have a store filled with elegant silver ware, and with all the most fashionable styles of jewelry.

—Bring Bright Boys to C. S. Wortley & Bro's and have them suited.

All the nobby styles of Caps are to be found at C. S. Wortley & Bro's.

—C. S. Wortley & Bro. employ a first-class cutter, who knows how to make clothes in the latest styles.

Albums, a large assortment. You will save money by getting my prices before purchasing. Fred F. Ingram, opposite depot.

—Have handsome Hats that come from C. S. Wortley & Bro's.

—"How do you make a Maltese cross?" was the question before the institute. And one of the school-marks answered: "Tread on her tail."

If you want Clothes or Hair Brushes, Combs, Toilet Soaps, or Holiday Goods, you will save money and get the bottom prices by calling on Ingram, opp depot. 81

—Boys' Suits and Children's suits at C. S. Wortley & Bro's.

—In spite of flannels, coughs and colds will make a lodgment in the system. But they are not tenants at will. You can dispossess them with *Hale's Honey of Horehound and Tur*, in less time than it takes a sheriff to execute a writ. Sold by all Druggists.

Pike's Toothache Drops cure in 1 minute. Jan.

—A physician's little daughter called upon for a toast, gave: "The health of papa and mamma and all the world. But suddenly corrected the sentiment. "Not all the world, for then papa would have no patients."

Irish Linen note heads at the Commercial office.

A handsome cut glass Bottle given away with every ounce of perfume at Ingram's, opp. depot. 781

—There never was a larger stock of goods at C. S. Wortley & Bro's.

QUERY: "Why will men smoke common tobacco, when they can buy Marburg Bros., 'Seal of North Carolina' at the same price?"

Paper of good quality at 5cts a quire and everything else proportionately cheap at Ingram's, opp. depot. 731

—At a less price than ever before you can buy your clothes at C. S. Wortley & Bro's.

Box Paper from 10c a box upwards at Ingram's, opp. depot. 781

—A little six-year-old, upon finding a lone and solitary stick of candy in his stocking on Christmas morning, mournfully exclaimed, "Gracious! if I had been born twins, I'd only got half this much!"

Chew Jackson's Best Sweet Navy Tobacco.

—Hats—Caps—Cloths—at C. S. Wortley & Bro's.

—If you have the Asthma, go to our popular druggist Dr. H. Van Tuyl and procure a bottle of the Great English Cough Remedy. It is warranted.

—Children's Outfit Clothing at C. S. Wortley & Bro's.

—Three or four doses of Great English Cough Remedy is warranted to relieve the worst case of sore throat you can produce. Sold by H. Van Tuyl.

YPSILANTI MARKETS.

Corrected weekly by O. A. ANSWORTH, Commission and Forwarding Merchant.

APPLES, per bbl. 75¢ to \$1.00  
BUCK FLOUR—\$3.00.  
BEANS—60¢ to 90¢.  
BUTTER—14.  
CORN—38¢ to 40¢ per bush.  
CLOVER SEED—\$3.50 per bush.  
CHICKENS—Dressed, 5¢ to 7¢. Live, 4¢.  
EGGS—16.  
HAY—\$8.00 to \$10.00 per ton  
HIDES—5¢.  
HONEY—In cap, 20  
HAMS—8¢ to 9¢.  
LARD—The market stands at 8¢ to 9¢.  
ONIONS—80¢ per bbl.  
OATS, NEW, 20¢ to 25¢.  
PORK—In bbl. \$8.00 to \$8.50  
DRESSED HOGS—\$3.00  
POTATOES—40¢ to 50¢.  
TIMOTHY SEED—\$1.60  
TURKEYS—Live, 7¢ to 8¢.  
WHEAT, EXTRA—35¢.  
" No. 1—35¢.  
BUCK WHEAT—50¢.

MARRIED.

CHEEVER—WARD.—On Thursday, December 26, 1878, at the residence of A. B. Ward, Esq., in the village of Dundee, by the Rev. Mr. Misence, WALTER H. CHEEVER, Principal of the Union School in that place, and CLARA J. WARD.

DIED.

HAYTON.—At the residence of Edward Simons, of this city, January 6th, 1879, SARAH, daughter of William H. Hayton, aged 5 months.

SAGE.—In this city, on the 3d inst, SUSAN, wife of Seth Sage, Esq., aged 54 years.

Mrs. Sage, well known by all of our old residents, had lived in this city about forty years. Beloved by all who knew her, she has passed to the home of the blessed, leaving this world of trouble and care. The bereaved family of the deceased have the heart-felt sympathy of our community in their sorrow, and are offered the consolation of a knowledge that all of good in the world to come is her reward. —*Sentinel*.

Local and Special Notices.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY—A girl to do the general housework in a family of five. Inquire at the COMMERCIAL office.

WASHTENAW COUNTY POOR HOUSE.—Sealed proposals for rendering the medical services needed at the County House, etc., for the year 1879, will be received by the Superintendent up to 10 o'clock A. M. of Tuesday, February 4, 1879. Packages marked "Proposals for Medical Services," may be left at the County House before the day and hour named, or handed to any one of the Superintendents, who reserve the right to reject any or all bids.  
Dated, January 8, 1879.  
DAVID WILSET,  
EDWARD DUFFY, Supts.  
D. B. GREENE,

SMOKE G. B. F. CIGARS, Warranted Pure Havana Filler and Binder, the best cigar in the city. Sold only by A. Guild, Tobaccoist, No. 9, Huron Street.

NOTICE.—The annual meeting of the Highland Cemetery Association, of the City of Ypsilanti, will be held at the office of the First National Bank, of Ypsilanti, Monday evening, January 13, 1879, at 7 o'clock, at which meeting Trustees for the three years next ensuing will be elected, and such other business as may properly come before the Association.  
Ypsilanti, January 4, 1879.  
F. K. KEMPFOED, THOS. NINDE,  
Clerk. President.

A SUPERIOR ARTICLE of Glycerine Dressing, warranted not to injure the finest kid, just received by Hewitt & Champion.

WHY WILL YOU pay 60cts for Tobacco when you can get the same for 50cts per pound at Guild's. Call and see. 770-773

A LARGE STOCK of Ladies' and Misses' Button Arctics and other warm lined goods of new styles at Hewitt & Champion's.

NOTICE TO STOCKHOLDERS. The regular annual meeting of the Stockholders of the First National Bank of Ypsilanti Michigan, for the election of Directors will be held at said Bank in Ypsilanti, on the second Tuesday of January, 1879 (Jan. 14, 1879), between the hours of 10 A. M., and 4 P. M., of said day.  
Dated at Ypsilanti, Mich., Dec. 10, 1878.  
F. P. BOGARDUS,  
Cashier.

A FINE ASSORTMENT of Ladies' and Gentlemen's Slippers for the holidays, just received by Hewitt & Champion.

NOBBY STYLES of Gentlemen's Fine Shoes. A new stock at Hewitt & Champion's.

A FACT.—We keep the largest stock, the best assortment, do the most durable work, and sell at the lowest prices. Call and see for yourselves. Hewitt & Champion.

POWER, RESONANCE, DURABILITY evenness of action, found in the Billings' Upright Piano only. Sold by CHAS. E. SAMSON.

LADIES GIPSEY BUTTON and Side Lace Boots in kid and goat—a new stock—just received by Hewitt & Champion.

RICHARD MILLER, TAILOR, Huron Street, one door north of W. B. Hewitt's residence. Any one wishing work done in my line, will do well to bring their goods and have them cut and made. Work warranted to give satisfaction and prices low. 767

FIFTEEN BILLINGS' UPRIGHT PIANOS ordered by CHAS. E. SAMSON.

MEN'S, BOYS' AND YOUTHS' BOOTS of superior quality, at very low prices at Hewitt & Champion's.

THE TUBULAR BAR places the Billings' Upright Pianos ahead of all others. Sold by CHAS. E. SAMSON.

IF YOU WANT A STYLISH PAIR OF Boots or Shoes made, or an old pair repaired at reasonable prices, call on Hewitt & Champion.

C. S. W. BALDWIN, Dentist,

Rooms over Post Office, Ypsilanti, Mich. Hours 8 to 12 A. M., and 1 to 5 P. M.

THAT IS SO, WHAT?

E. Elliott Cleans and Repairs Clothes better than any one in town. Why just look at these clothes of mine, they look as good as new. Just look in his shop and see for yourself. Bring along those faded garments and have them dyed and made equal to new clothes and save money.

E. ELLIOTT,  
Norris Block, Opp. Depot, Ypsilanti.

WATCH, CLOCK, AND JEWELRY REPAIRER AND CLEANER.  
Satisfaction guaranteed. AT A. H. Haskin's bakery, at the Depot. JOHN BIDDLE. 729

The Leading Business Houses of Detroit.

R. H. FYFE & CO.

—FINE—

BOOTS AND SHOES

101 Woodward Avenue,

DETROIT, MICH.

R. W. King & Son,

IMPORTERS AND JOBBERS OF

CROCKERY,

CHINA,

GLASSWARE,

LAMPS, ETC.

103 Woodward Avenue,

DETROIT, - MICH.

ABBOT & KETCHUM,

DEALERS IN

CARPETS AND HOUSE-FURNISHING GOODS,

Carpets, Oil Cloths, Linoleum, Matting, Rugs and Mats, Oriental Carpets, Lambrequins, Lace Curtains, Shades, Cornices, Pillows, Mattresses and Upholstery Goods.

No. 107 WOODWARD AVENUE,

DETROIT, MICH.

NEWCOMB, ENDICOTT & CO.

DRY GOODS.

DETROIT OPERA HOUSE BUILDING

CAMPUS MARTIUS,

DETROIT.

O. A. NEWCOMB. CHAS. ENDICOTT. F. D. TAYLOR.

F. WETMORE & CO.,

100 Woodward Ave.

Headquarters for Lamps, Chandeliers, Oil, Etc. Gas Fixtures of all kinds at bargain. Student Lamps of several kinds—St. Germain, Home, Manhattan, Cleveland, Etc. Chandeliers for Churches and Halls a specialty. New designs and novelties in Glass Shades and Chimneys. Consumers can save gas by using our patent check burner. Inquiries by mail promptly answered and cuts of Chandeliers with estimates.

Geo. Peck & Co.

DRY GOODS!

SILKS,

CLOAKS,

SHAWLS,

CASSIMERE,

CLOAKINGS,

DRESS GOODS.

155 and 157 Woodward Avenue,

DETROIT, - MICH.

THE "Billings' Upright Grand Pianos,"

—WITH THEIR NEW—

PATENT TUBULAR BAR,

Which adds greatly to the strength of the case and supports the action firmly, are acknowledged by everybody to be far superior to any Piano made, alike in

Power, Resonance of Tone, Durability, Evenness of Action and Beauty.

FIFTEEN OF THESE BEAUTIFUL PIANOS ENGAGED AND STILL THE ORDERS COME IN.

Don't fail to see them before you purchase, at

CHAS. E. SAMSON'S MUSIC ROOMS.

An Agent Wanted in this Locality to Supply the Rapid Demand.

Nothing Succeeds Like Success!

The former high priced Machines REDUCED to

TWENTY DOLLARS

Thoroughly Warranted and sent to you for Examination Before You Pay For it.

And no obligation to keep one, if not better than any machine you ever had.

EVERY FAMILY CAN OWN A FIRST-CLASS SEWING MACHINE.

The Old Favorite and Reliable STANDARD

SEWING MACHINE \$20.

ACKNOWLEDGES NO SUPERIOR!!

We Can Not Make a Better Machine at Any Price.

THE HIGHEST PREMIUM AWARDED THE STITCH AT THE CENTENNIAL.

A Strictly First-Class Shuttle Double Thread Lock Stitch Machine, more complete in equipments than any other, and combining all the late improvements, with the old and tried qualities for which the

STANDARD IS SO POPULAR.

A Faithful Family Sewing Machine in every sense of the word—that runs smooth and does every description of plain and fancy sewing with ease and certainty—so strong and well made, and so thoroughly tested while in use for years in Thousands of Families, that each Machine that leaves our Factory is warranted for five years, and kept in Order free of charge. Money refunded at once if not perfectly satisfactory. Reduced in price far below all other machines. No extras to pay for. Each Machine is accompanied by a more complete outfit of numerous and useful attachments for all kinds of work (free of any extra charge) than is given with any other Machine at any price. The Standard Machine has more good qualities than those of double the price. Light and easy running, a child can use it. Strong and Durable never out of order. Rapid and certain in Execution. No useless Cogs or Gears to wear out or make a noisy. Will last for years. Is ready in a moment, and understood in an hour. Makes the double thread Lock Stitch, alike on both sides of the goods, from cambric to leather, in a Short, Straight, and Strong Needle, extra long, large, easily threaded Shuttle. With new Automatic Tension. Large Bob bins capable of holding one hundred yards of thread. A Large Strong Machine with great width of arm, giving it many of the desired qualities, and great capacity for a wide range of work. It is the best machine in Principle and in Point of Construction. Use it once and you will use no other. Active agents wanted in this country to receive orders and deliver Machines. Extra inducements offered Clergymen, Teachers, Business Men, &c. Illustrated Book, samples of work, with price list, &c., free. Safe delivery of goods guaranteed to any part of the world. Address STANDARD SEWING MACHINE CO., BROADWAY and CLINTON PLACE, New York.

To Our Patrons, A Merry Christmas



## NEWS OF THE WEEK.

### MICHIGAN.

Members of the Legislature are well pleased with the new Capitol.

The thermometer fell from 10 to 18° below zero throughout the State, Thursday night, the 2nd inst.

Michigan ice dealers report that they have never had a finer crop of ice than the one they are now harvesting. It is clear, solid and very thick.

Remored that W. K. Muir, late general manager of the Canada Southern railway, is to take charge of the Chicago & Lake Huron railroad when it gets out of its present trouble.

The Bronson reform club has reorganized, elected new officers, dug up the tomahawk, and declared a new war on whiskey.

Henry Willis has gone to Washington to lobby for his Michigan ship canal project.

Quite a haul of thieves has been made at Jackson, who have been plundering freight cars at Jackson, and considerable property recovered. Two boys named Charles and James McCaffrey, "Mother" McGregor and niece, Thomas McCune and James Ryan are all in jail for having a hand in the business.

Snow is eight feet deep north of Marcella, Antrim county.

A fire at Schoolcraft Friday morning destroyed several buildings and property valued at \$19,500. The thermometer stood at fifteen degrees below zero, and many who worked at the fire had hands, feet and ears frozen.

Owen McIntyre, aged 110 years, died in the town of Lyndon, Washington county, on the 2nd inst. He was born in Ireland in 1768. He took part in the rebellion of 1792, was afterwards arrested and put in jail, for being a rebel. After being released he remained some years in Ireland, when he thought he would try his fortune in the new world. He came to America and after a residence of some years in the East he purchased from the Government a quarter section in the township of Lyndon, on which he located nearly half a century ago. Mr. McIntyre never used tobacco in any form. He also enjoyed good health, and was confined to the house only two weeks previous to his death. He was fond of relating incidents that occurred when he was a boy, and was often heard to boast of having voted at 16 Presidential elections. In politics he was a Democrat, and at the November election in 1876 cast his ballot for Tilden.

The fruit is not injured by the late freeze, on the eastern coast of Lake Michigan. At Traverse City the thermometer did not go below zero; at Manistee from one to two degrees below; at Alpena one to two degrees below; and at South Haven ten degrees below. Fruit is safe until the thermometer reaches fifteen to twenty below zero.

Saturday morning a passenger coach attached to the show-bound train on the Toledo & Ann Arbor railroad, seven miles south of Ann Arbor, was destroyed by fire.

Donald McTaggart and Edward Sowles were instantly killed on Saturday, near Exar, by a collision on Eldred's logging railroad.

The Saginaw Board of Supervisors, by a vote of 24 to 12, have voted an extra compensation to Judge Tennant of \$1,000.

The Niles Water Works were sold December 30 at sheriff sale to Thos. Gaines, one of the creditors, who was the highest bidder. His bid was \$2,000.

The Port Huron banks have agreed to charge Canada money 1 per cent. discount.

A committee of the Jackson County Board of Supervisors has agreed to report in favor of discharging Esther Coffeen from the jail of that county. She was sentenced to State Prison by Judge Holmes, of Grand Rapids, for life, but the warden of the prison refused to receive her.

J. W. Ryan, of Adrian, has submitted to an operation by which a strip of steel, which was imbedded in his eye in 1862, has at last been safely removed and his eye saved. Professor Frothingham, of Ann Arbor did the good deed for him.

Deotoring the poor in Isabella county, and the prisoners in the jail in Jackson county, is being let out to the lowest bidder. Pity the poor.

An incendiary fire at the Detroit depot of the Michigan Central Railroad, Saturday night, did about \$5,000 worth of damage. It was set in three places, and the firemen had a hard night's work and a cold job in subduing it.

Two tramps entered the postoffice and two other places in Buchanan Saturday night and stole a lot of stamps, hardware and cigars. They were arrested and the stolen property recovered.

The State Publishers' Association met at Lansing Tuesday, 32 being present, the largest gathering of the kind ever held. J. E. Scripps read a paper on "How to Make a Newspaper Pay," and Thomas S. Applegate, of the Adrian Times, also presented a paper on "Advertising." The law of libel was discussed at length, and a committee of three was appointed to suggest modifications of the law to prevent malicious prosecutions for publishing news and making truthful comments thereon.

The Weissels block and two adjoining buildings, occupied for clothing, millinery and dry goods stores and a photograph gallery, at St. Louis, were burned Tuesday morning. Loss, \$20,000; buildings and stocks partially insured.

Charlotte is to have a paid fire department. The Governor will not call a special election for the First Congressional District.

### GENERAL NEWS.

The public debt was increased during December by \$1,233,735.

Resumption created no excitement in New York. More gold was deposited in the Treasury than was drawn out. The banks report that their customers do not want gold—they prefer greenbacks. The same experience is reported in Detroit banks.

January 2nd, the subscriptions to the four per cent. loan were \$8,590,150.

The other day a thief entered the Government printing office, and watching his opportunity, took from the safe of the disbursing clerk a package containing \$10,000, intended for paying off employees and for the purchase of material, and made his escape without observation.

Fires: At Farmerville, La., loss \$10,000; at Elgin, Ill., loss \$100,000; at Quincy, Ill., loss \$60,000; at Evanston, Ill., loss \$25,000.

The scenery at Niagara Falls is the finest known for years, an ice bridge having formed between the falls and the railroad suspension bridge. For once people pass back and forth without toll. The ice bridge in Prospect Park is surprisingly beautiful.

Mrs. Gaines, the famous litigant, is 71 years old, has been engaged in her peculiar warfare for 47 years, and at four different times has suffered physically and mentally from attempts made on her life; but she looks no older than any woman of 40, is as lithe and active as a girl, and has a hair which there is no thread among the gold-falls in abundant tresses below her waist. She says she expects to live to be 150.

Caleb Cushing died at Newburyport, Mass., Friday night.

Augusta, Me., January 3.—Alonzo Garcelon was to-day elected Governor, receiving 21 votes to 10 for Joseph L. Smith.

The mercury went to 22 below at Chicago Friday. At Yankton, D. T., 26 below. At Cincinnati 15 below.

By the operations of the Moffatt liquor law the State of Virginia last year received \$110,000 in excess of the receipts from the old system.

The Mint Bureau has turned into the treasury \$575,000 profits accruing to the government from the coinage of standard silver for the past three weeks, after buying silver for coinage and paying for the transportation and allowing for the wasting process of coining. Since the commencement of the coinage of the standard silver dollar the government has profited between the legal tender value and the real value of the bullion which it contains, to the amount of \$1,600,000.

Fires: At Columbus, Ga., loss \$70,000; at St. Louis, Mo., loss \$100,000; at Chatfield, Minn., loss \$12,000; at Osceola, Wis., loss \$12,000.

At an entertainment New Year's night, at the City Hall of Barnesville, Ohio, called the "Feast of Mandomin," upwards of 150 persons were taken violently ill, some miscerant having mixed croton oil with the food.

A squad of 50 revenue men, under Capt. Benson, of Benton, Mo., has returned from a raid upon "Moonshiners" in the border counties of Kentucky and Tennessee. They report the destruction of over 50 distilleries, and the capture of a large number of distillers. It is thought that the business is pretty well broken up in this region.

Fires Saturday: At Chicago, the Honore block in which is the Post Office, the upper stories were damaged to the amount of \$50,000 to \$75,000; and the individual losses were about \$15,000. The only loss to the Post Office is \$15,000 in stamped envelopes. At Buffalo, the Academy of the Holy Angels, loss \$60,000, insurance \$25,000; At Columbus, Ga., the Rankin House, skating rink and 13 stores; loss \$70,000, insurance \$22,000. At Indianapolis, in Centennial block, damage \$5,000. At St. Paris, O., the distillery and flouring mill, loss \$16,000, insured for \$13,500. At Walpole, Mass., insurance \$25,000; loss \$10,000. His wife perished in the flames. At Hamilton, O., S. Hughes & Co's flouring mills; loss \$18,000. At Hingham Mass., the public library and post office. At Huntington, W. Va., the Avenue Hotel and four other buildings; loss \$12,000.

It is expected that 15,000 Mennonites will arrive in this country from Russia by May next. This is the last year of the Mennonites' exemption from military service.

The Secretary of the Treasury has made another call for U. S. bonds—\$10,000,000 worth of six per cent.

The Credit Mobilier suit has been thrown out of court.

Subscriptions to the four per cent. funding bonds Monday amounted to \$11,003,500.

The coin in the U. S. Treasury is increasing. Tilden will testify in reference to the cipher dispatches.

Matter written with the electric-pen, or with a type-writer, in the nature of a letter, must pay letter rates in the mails.

A fire at Ashtabula, Ohio, Monday morning, destroyed property worth \$10,000.

Ex-Gov. Broder, who headed the rising in Calula and Michoacan, Mexico, has been killed with 14 of his followers.

### CONGRESS.

Jan. 7.—Congress convened after the holiday session, with barely a quorum present in either House. Nothing of importance was done. In the Senate, a petition of citizens of Alaska, to be attached to the State of Oregon for judicial purposes, was reported upon adversely.

The late elections in France were a crushing blow to the Bonapartists. The majority now is of moderate Republicans.

The Socialist Democrats have lately carried most of their municipal candidates around Leipzig.

A supplement of the official Gazette announces that the plague in Astrakhan, which was abating, has revived with great violence, since the recent thaw.

The Pope is consulting as to the advisability of calling a new Ecumenical Council.

Cold weather, great disasters and more strikes are prevailing in England.

Fifteen hundred railroad men are on a strike near London; five hundred coal builders at Liverpool; five hundred shipwrights and two hundred iron workers at Middleboro; and large bodies of men in Lancashire and Yorkshire.

A Miss Wheat, down in Indiana, was thrashed the other day by a lover whose Wheat heart she had ceased to be.

The most bashful girl we ever heard of was the young lady who blushed when she was asked if she had not been courting sleep.

"Have you cognize?" she asked. "No, ma'am," replied the druggist; "I have no scents at all." She said he didn't look as though he had.

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"Arent' you rather too old to ride for half price?" said a ticket-clerk to the elder of two boys. "Well," replied the youth, "I am under fourteen, and this boy with me is under six. That don't make twenty, and you will take two boys under ten for half each." And he took them.

If Edison will turn in now and invent some kind of a calcium light that will light up all the street except front gates, and leave them in a sombre shadow that will prevent an old man in an upper bedroom window from telling whether two people are close together or wide apart, it will do. Otherwise it will be exceedingly unpopular.

The Chinese are singularly affected in their personal civilities. They even calculate the number of their reverences. These are the most remarkable postures. The men move their hands in an affectionate manner, while they are joined together on the breast, and bow their heads a little. If they respect a person they raise their hands joined, and then lower them to the earth in bending the body. If two persons meet after a long separation, they both fall on their knees and bend their face to the earth, and this ceremony they repeat two or three times. Surely, we may well proclaim this ceremony to be ridiculous. It arises from their natural affection. They substitute artificial ceremonies for natural actions. Their expressions mean as little as the ceremonies. If a Chinese is asked how he finds himself in health, he answers, "Very well; thanks to your abundant felicity." "If they would tell a man that he looks well in health, they say, 'Prosperity is painted on your face,' or 'Your air announces your happiness.' If you render them any service, they say, 'My thanks shall be immortal.' If you praise them they answer, 'How shall I dare to persuade myself of what you say to me?' If you dine with them, they tell you at parting, 'We have not treated you with sufficient distinction.'

The following officers of the Senate were elected by a nearly unanimous vote, the minorities presenting no regular candidates: Secretary—Edwin S. Hopkins. Assistant Secretary—Charles C. Hopkins. Enrolling and Enrolling Clerk—Denison E. Groesbeck.

Sergeant-at-Arms—Charles H. Perkins. Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms—John S. Brubaker.

Second Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms—Georgio H. Groesbeck. Assistant Enrolling and Enrolling Clerk—O. F. Moore.

The Senate then took a recess till 12:30 o'clock.

At the afternoon session Senator Shepard introduced a resolution, which was adopted, adding a committee on the liquor traffic to the standing committees of the Senate.

The customary resolutions relating to stationery, the rules and joint rules, hour of meeting, appointment of messenger boys, etc., were adopted, and a resolution for the appointment of a postmaster was tabled.

The Senate adjourned till 10 A. M.

Jan. 2.—In the Senate, the President made appointments to the minor offices, janitors, messengers, etc. L. H. Ludlow, postmaster. The President announced that he had appointed the following as a committee to appoint the Governor's message: Senators Chamberlain, Brown, Childs, Hine and Hodges.

In the House, petitions were presented, for the establishment of a reform school for girls; for a new bankrupt act; for female suffrage, and for local objects.

The minor offices of the House were filled, the rules of the last House adopted, and E. P. Allen, of Washington, was elected Speaker pro tem.

Mr. Noah presented three petitions for a reform school for girls.

The House a committee on the liquor traffic was added to the standing committees.

The following notices of bills were given: To reincorporate Almont; to suppress tramps; to limit the rate of interest to seven per cent.; and to regulate practice of medicine and surgery.

The N. Y. Central and Erie railroads were blocked with snow and did not run through trains from Thursday to Tuesday last.

The New York Legislature took possession of the new State House Tuesday.

The Legislatures of New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Minnesota, Nevada and Maine met on the 7th inst.

The public debt of Pennsylvania is one and a half millions.

### FOREIGN NEWS.

The centennial of the discovery of the Sandwich Islands by Capt. Cook in 1778, is to be commemorated by the erection of a bronze statue of King Kamehameha, the conqueror and organizer of the Islands.

During practice on the British man-of-war Thunderer, at Ismid, on the gulf of Ismid, Asia Minor, a 38-ton gun burst, killing seven men, wounding 40, and destroying the vessel's turret.

A plague has appeared among the Tsyssaks of Astrakhan. The sufferers are isolated. Many doctors have been summoned to their relief. Of 195 persons attacked since the 1st inst. 143 have died.

Gen. Grant had a hearty reception at Dublin.

Another severe snow-storm accompanied with unusual cold is reported in Scotland.

In France, owing to the rapid thaw, the rivers are overflowing their banks and much damage has been done.

A Hazir Pir dispatch says Gen. Roberts, with a large force, has entered the District of Khost, which he intends to occupy to overawe the mountaineers. No opposition is expected.

A correspondent with the Quetta column reports that the Afghans have flooded the country around Candahar and that all the non-combatants are leaving that city.

The Cornish Bank, at Truro, Cornwall, Eng., failed. The bank did a very large business in mining and other commercial enterprises. The bank belongs to Tweedie, Williams & Co. It was established about ten years ago, and has branches at Falmouth, Penryn and Redruth. Further stoppage of Cornish mines is inevitable, and the failure of many private firms must follow. The bank had an authorized issue of £49,000. The depositors of the Cornish Bank amounted to £5,000,000.

Juan Moncaesi, who attempted to assassinate the King of Spain on the 25th of October, was hung at Madrid last Saturday.

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### Members of the Legislature.

Dist.	Name.	P. O. Address.	County.
1.	Weir, Jas. D.	Detroit	Wayne.
2.	Palmer, T. W.	Detroit	Wayne.
3.	Duffield, W. W.	Detroit	Wayne.
4.	Childs, J. W.	Ypsilanti	Washtenaw.
5.	Conant, H. A.	Monroe	Monroe.
6.	Robbins, R. B.	Adrian	Lenawee.
7.	Hodge, H. C.	Concord	Alcona.
8.	Patterson, J. C.	Marshall	Calhoun.
9.	Hewitt, Alex.	Hillsdale	Hillsdale.
10.	Pendleton, E. W.	Sturgis	St. Joseph.
11.	Brown, E. M.	Schoolcraft	Kalamazoo.
12.	Shepard, J. M.	Cassopolis	Cass.
13.	Chamberlain, W.	Three Oaks	Berrien.
14.	Lewis, N. W.	Ganges	Allegan.
15.	McPeck, J. L.	Grand Ledge	Eaton.
16.	Hooker, John S.	Lansing	Ingham.
17.	Halbert, H.	Powdermill	Livingstone.
18.	Dow, Peter	Pontiac	Oakland.
19.	Billings, S. R.	Flint	Genesee.
20.	Moore, J. B.	Lapeer	Lapeer.
21.	McElroy, C.	St. Clair	St. Clair.
22.	Hastler, B. W.	Vassar	Tuscola.
23.	Bray, H. W.	Bridgeport	Saginaw.
24.	Shoemaker, J. P.	Amesden	Montcalm.
25.	Hine, Milton B.	Austerlitz	Kent.
26.	Farr, Geo. A.	Grand Haven	Ottawa.
27.	Ambley, W. E.	Pontiac	Ocean.
28.	Cochrane, J. W.	Midland	Midland.
29.	Thayer, C. V.	East City	Bay.
30.	Bell, George W.	Cheboygan	Cheboygan.
31.	Stephenson, S. M.	Menominee	Menominee.
32.	North, Seth D.	Hancock	Houghton.

REPRESENTATIVES.		
Name.	P. O. Address	County.
Abbott, Wm. L.	Goodland	Lapeer.
Allen, Edward P.	Ypsilanti	Washtenaw.
Baldwin, Charles.	Pontiac.	Oakland.
Barnes, Orasmus S.	Center	Eaton.
Bennett, S. W.	Fairfield	Lenawee.
Betley, Jacob	Goodrich	Genesee.
Blackman, H. E.	Allegan	Allegan.
Bowen, Orro A.	Lansing	Ingham.
Brady, W. W.	Battle Creek	Calhoun.
Briggs, Charles	Calumet	Houghton.
Bradfield, T. P.	Copper Falls	Ontonagon.
Brown, Samuel B.	Ransom	Hillsdale.
Burton, Porter	Hastings	Barry.
Campbell, James H.	Marshall	Calhoun.
Carter, Palmer S.	St. Clair.	St. Clair.
Carpenter, Munson	Genesee	Lenawee.
Chase, Eugene V.	Elsie	Clinton.
Cheney, Amherst B.	Sparta	Clinton.
Cottrell, Eber W.	Wayne	Wayne.
Curtis, Wm. H.	Hanley	Ottawa.
Curran, J. E.	St. Ignace	Isosco.
Donnelly, John C.	Detroit.	Wayne.
Eaton, Crosby	South Haven	Allegan.
Estabrook, John S.	E. Saginaw	Saginaw.
Francis, Wm. H.	Frankfort	Benzie.
Ferguson, James E.	Bangor	Van Buren.
Gardner, James E.	Detroit.	Wayne.
Gobel, August	Detroit.	Wayne.
Gould, James	Jackson	Jackson.
Granger, George H.	Unionville	Tuscola.
Greene, Daniel C.	Romeo	Macomb.
Griffey, Clinton G.	Negannec	Marquette.
Grimes, Thompson	Pinekey	Livingstone.
Hall, Alfred D.	Tecumseh	Lenawee.
Hamilton, John	Constantine	St. Joseph.
Henderson, H. P.	Mason	Ingham.
Hill, E. Parker	Deceatur	Van Buren.
Holt, Henry H.	Muskegon	Muskegon.
Hopkins, George H.	Detroit	Wayne.
Hopkins, Samuel W.	Mt. Pleasant	Isabella.



Continued from second page.

the line, and be prosecuted rapidly until the railroad was in full operation.

The Board afforded every facility within its power to aid in the enterprise, and appointed Hon. John J. Bagley and Hiram B. Crosby trustees to receive and disburse the avails of any pledges or securities, and to survey the railroad and lands to obtain means for the building thereof. The prospect for the construction of the road seemed hopeful, but since, notwithstanding repeated assurances have been given that the work would be immediately commenced, not a blow has been struck, and the Board being now satisfied that the parties concerned have not the funds requisite to build it, and that there is no reasonable probability of their being able to obtain moneys for that purpose, have taken steps to declare the contract forfeited, and to place the land grant so that it may be available to any other parties who may contract to build the road.

The construction of this railroad is an urgent necessity, demanded not only to facilitate trade with the rich mining regions of the Upper Peninsula, but to secure to our people a fair share of the commerce of that immense grain producing section, penetrated for hundreds of miles by the Northern Pacific Railroad.

It is well understood that the great line of railroad is yet to be built eastward from Duluth to the boundary of Michigan, on the South shore of Lake Superior. Now, with a short extension of the line projected from Mackinac to Marquette, we shall be able to tap it and divert a large portion of its traffic and trade to this State, and thus open the way for a direct intercourse with the vast extent of country it is built to traverse.

Communication between the Upper and Lower Peninsula is now carried on for three fourths of the year by a circuitous route through three other states, diverting the traffic of an important section of the state elsewhere, and making it tributary to other interests.

The construction of the Mackinac and Marquette Railroad would, in a great measure restore to us this trade, and bring the two Peninsulas into nearer and more intimate relations.

But important as the demand is for this road, it is apparent that withholding the lands from market in certain localities is retarding settlement and preventing the development of the country. Portions of the grant are heavily timbered and other parts of it are said to be valuable for agriculture and mineral purposes, and public interest seem to require that in some sections they should not be kept from sale and settlement, while at the same time there is no reasonable prospect that the purpose of the grant will be accomplished. I believe it wise policy to devote the lands sacredly to the object contemplated, and I would not divert them to other purposes. It, however, it shall be found necessary to open any of them to sale, I recommend that it be upon condition that they be sold for cash, and that the proceeds be paid into the treasury and set apart as a fund to be applied in aid of the enterprise for which they were appropriated.

**SAVINGS BANKS.**  
I renew the recommendation repeatedly made by my immediate predecessor for some further legislation similar in character to those in the national banking law for the more careful examination and scrutiny of the savings banks of this State. These banks hold large amounts of money, and so far as I know have been prudently managed. But they are the offspring of the Legislature, and are subject to its control. It is its duty if it neglects to guard the rights of depositors, many of whom are laborers and persons of moderate means.

The rates of interest have been steadily decreasing for some time past. An abundance of money can now be obtained, on good security, at 7 and 8 per cent. Real property in this State has no uncertain value, and the probabilities are that hereafter money will never command as high rates of interest as it has heretofore. As a result of this state of circumstances there seems to be a demand for the repeal of the provisions authorizing contracts to be made at rates as high as 10 per cent. With this accomplished, the uniform rate throughout the State would be 7 per cent.

**INSURANCE.**  
The business of insurance, connected as it is with nearly all our commercial and financial transactions, has become one of great importance. The number of companies now authorized to transact business in Michigan is 195. Of these, 150 are incorporated under the laws of this State, 12 are one life insurance company, with assets amounting to over \$900,000, and risks in force to the amount of \$1,641,000; two stock fire companies, with an aggregate of \$22,000,000 at risk; and 47 farmers' mutual fire companies, embracing 57,000 members and risks in force to the amount of \$107,000,000.

The stock fire companies of other States (102) and foreign governments (15) now authorized number 177, and during the year 1877 wrote risks here to the amount of over \$136,000,000.

From the year 1870 to 1877 both inclusive, the aggregate of business done in this State by stock fire insurance companies is as follows:

Risks written.....	\$1,210,261,955
Premiums received.....	17,071,744
Losses incurred.....	9,847,689

During the same period these companies have paid into the State Treasury about \$500,000 in specific taxes.

In the year 1877 there were 15 life insurance companies of other States doing business in this State. This number has been reduced to 28. No considerable loss has fallen upon our people by reason of the failure of life insurance companies, except in the case of the Continental of New York. The number of life insurance policies now in force upon the lives of citizens of this State is about 22,000, representing insurance to the amount of \$42,000,000. During the eight years last past, covering the period of the existence of the Insurance Bureau, a large number of both life and fire insurance companies have been sent out of this State or refused admittance on account of inability to comply fully with our laws. The subsequent failure of many of these concerns has demonstrated that the State standard of solvency cannot be too rigidly maintained.

During the past two years no failure has occurred among companies authorized in this State. They have suffered somewhat in depression of business and in shrinkage of values, in common with all other financial institutions, but there appears no good reason for doubting their ability to fulfill their contracts.

The laws relating to life, fire and marine insurance are believed to be adequate for the protection of the people and the companies, and need no radical changes. It might be well to enact a law to more effectually punish insurance by unauthorized agents and companies. At the last session of the Legislature an act was passed intending to regulate the business of plate glass insurance by requiring such companies under the same regulations as life companies. The act is quite indefinite and needs amendment, and I recommend its repeal and the passage of a more specific law regulating this kind of insurance.

**FIRE.**  
Kindred to the subject of insurance is

the great destruction of property annually by fire. Some idea of this may be obtained from the fact that the fire insurance companies alone have paid out over \$10,000,000 for losses in Michigan within the last eight years.

According to the most reliable data accessible, there were, during the year 1877, in this country and Canada, 10,405 fires, or one in nearly every 30 minutes. The value of property destroyed by these fires amounted to nearly one hundred millions of dollars. Of that sum \$48,000,000 was paid by insurance companies, and the remainder of the loss was sustained by property owners. The entire sum, however, was a total loss to the wealth of the country. The State of Michigan suffered losses by fire in 1877 of over \$3,000,000, about one-half of which fell upon the insurance companies.

The balance, \$1,500,000, may fairly be considered as the net loss to this State each year by fire. Many of these fires may be attributed directly to the entire absence or nonenforcement of building laws and directly to defective construction. After all probable innocent causes are eliminated, the criminal records affirm that arson is not an infrequent agent in the burning of property. This class of fires may be set to hide crime, gratify revenge, or to force a sale of surplus properties of over-insured property. This subject is an important one in view of the desirability of saving the wealth of the State and suppressing crime.

Within the last eight years, it appears from the reports of the several Prosecuting Attorneys to the Attorney General, that the number of persons proceeded against in this State for various offenses was 47,824. Of these 313 were charged with the crime of arson, but only 42 were convicted and punished. It would seem that the laws were ample for the punishment of this crime, and it is not apparent that there is any lack of zeal on the part of prosecuting officers when proper complaints are made. I suggest whether the requirement of some examination and report by some local officers into the cause of the fire, extent of the loss, and amount of insurance, would not furnish valuable information, and at the same time tend to constitute a protection against such calamities.

**LIBRARY.**  
The bound and unbound books on the shelves of the library number about 40,000 volumes. Of these some \$5,000 have been obtained within the past two years through purchase, exchange or donation. The law department contains the largest and best collection of law books in the State, having the American reports complete and the English nearly so. The librarian suggests an appropriation of \$5,000 for the next two years for the purchase of books.

An appropriation should be somewhat larger than heretofore, and that provision should be made for additional help, as the present location will necessitate it. I would also suggest the propriety of having the librarian keep an account of lost or damaged books, as well as having an inventory taken yearly.

**CHARITABLE AND HEALTH BOARDS.**  
The Board for the Supervision of Charitable Institutions has steadily pursued its work, and I refer you to its report for many excellent suggestions in regard to our system of charities and correction.

The reports of the Board of Health have attracted attention and contain valuable information in regard to the prevention of disease. It is to be regretted that great delay occurs in the preparation and publication of the vital statistics. It would seem that they lose much of their value when brought out years after they are taken.

**THE RAILROAD STRIKE AND THE MILITARY.**

In July, 1877, a spirit of violence and disorder was manifested in some sections of the country, which resulted in serious disturbances, with the destruction of many lives and millions of dollars' worth of property. Combinations were formed, railroad depots, warehouses and shops seized, freight and passenger trains compelled to stop running, and a large part of the carrying business of the country for the time being suspended.

I think the military power of a similar danger was threatening the peace and good order of this State, I deemed it my duty to take prompt and energetic measures to meet such emergency should it arise. I accordingly ordered out the whole military force of the State to be encamped where they might rapidly be distributed in case of need. To this call the troops promptly responded and the three regiments were quickly in the field ready for active duty. On the 26th day of July a portion of hands in the employ of the Michigan Central Railway Company at the city of Jackson struck, and compelling others to abandon work and join them, proceeded to stop all trains running over such railway to or from said city. On being advised of this action, the officers of the railway immediately appealed to me, demanding the protection of the State against this unlawful and violent interference with the company's property. Deeming it my duty to use the military power only as a last resort in aid of the civil authorities when their efforts to restore order had proved powerless, I at once placed myself in communication with the Hon. James O'Donnell, mayor of the city, requesting him to keep me advised of the situation, and assuring him that I would direct the military to promptly and firmly support the local authorities in maintaining peace and the supremacy of the laws. I further issued a proclamation enjoining all persons to refrain from improperly or violently molesting or interfering with the property of others, and requiring local executive officers to be active and vigilant in their respective localities for the maintenance of the public peace.

I was gratified in a short time to be assured by the Mayor of Jackson that the civil authorities, aided by the citizens of the place, were doing all in their power to quiet the disturbance and provide for the passage of trains, with a fair prospect that such result would be speedily attained without resort to the use of military force. I was subsequently advised that the parties engaged in the unlawful proceedings had wholly relinquished their designs, and would no longer hinder the corporation from the regular use of its railway. The trouble was ended, fortunately, without the destruction of a dollar's worth of property or the loss of life. In view of the exhibited state of feeling that then prevailed among railroad operatives all over the country consequent upon a reduction of wages, and of the fearful outbreaks that had taken place elsewhere, the situation was one of unusual gravity, and the danger imminent that ill-judged moves might have resulted in most fearful consequences. That we escaped a great disaster is in my judgment largely due to the excellent course pursued by the authorities and citizens of Jackson, to the prudent measures taken by the railroad officials to prevent a collision with the strikers, as well as to the near presence of the military giving assurance that the full power of the State would be employed if necessary to prevent violence and maintain order. It is also creditable to the workmen who engaged in the strike that they speedily took counsel of wisdom

and abandoned their inconsiderate and unlawful proceedings. The military merit my thanks for the alacrity with which they responded to my call as well as for their excellent bearing and good conduct while on duty. Experience in this emergency demonstrates that we must rely chiefly upon our State military force to suppress riots or tumults arising in our midst.

The policy of the general government seems to be to discourage the employment of federal troops in such cases until it is apparent that the State alone is unable to overcome the disturbance.

In the outbreak referred to, if we had been without State forces, and had been obliged to wait until a formal application could have been made on the President and responded to with federal troops, the strike would undoubtedly have assumed much greater proportions. The United States mail, of which there was a large quantity on the delayed trains, would have been long detained; while the criminal and vicious acts which would have been committed on occasion of pillage and plunder, would have had greater opportunities to enable them to do damage.

While not prepared to advise an increase of the military force, I do recommend the adoption of measures to add to its efficiency. A step in this direction has already been taken by the military board in exchanging the fire-arms heretofore used for the latest pattern of Sharp's breech-loading rifles, with which all of the regiments are now equipped.

This should be supplemented by the purchase of haversacks, blankets and overcoats to be stored with the Quartermaster-General, and furnished to the troops, from time to time, for use when required by the demands of the service.

Companies should be obliged to have enrolled the maximum number of able-bodied men, as there are always some who cannot do duty at all; they should have officers of experience, hold regular meetings for drill, and be subject to frequent careful inspection.

Well-organized regiments of this character, supported by the superior Gatling gun recently procured by the General Government on the amount standing to the credit of this State payable in arms, we may utilize our State military so that we shall have an efficient force always at command to assist the civil authorities in suppressing outbreaks and maintaining order.

The expense for the transportation, subsistence, and service of the troops thus called out during the strike amounted in the aggregate to \$25,209.65. The money in the military fund owing to the diversion of much of it by the Legislature in the war of the Rebellion; while inadequate to meet these demands; consequently a considerable portion of the expense incurred, including the payment of officers and men, had to be deferred. Through the courtesy of the Auditor General and State Treasurer, the military board were permitted to realize an advance on the military fund and apply the same to the payment of the troops; they were enabled to pay off the troops and discharge such of their indebtedness as could not well be delayed. The whole sum of the expense now outstanding and unpaid is \$1,752.42.

For some time past it seems to have been the policy of the Legislature to trench upon the military fund and apply portions of it to objects other than the legitimate expense of maintaining a military force for active duty. A portion of the fund is now devoted to supporting, at Harper's Hospital and the Asylum at Kalamazoo, infirm and insane soldiers enlisted in the Union army in this State during the war of the Rebellion; while another portion is reserved, under a recent act of legislation, to pay claims of non-commissioned officers and musicians of the Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Regiments of Michigan infantry for services at the camp of instruction at Fort Wayne in 1861. If we are to maintain an efficient military force, it is plain that the funds appropriated for the purpose must not be diverted to other channels. The subject of changing the law so that the means of such fund shall not be as largely absorbed for purposes not contemplated by the original appropriation, is respectfully suggested for your favorable consideration.

**DEPARTMENT CLERKS.**  
I deem it my duty to call your attention to the utter want of uniformity in the system regulating the employment of clerks in the several departments of the State government. The laws applicable to some of the State offices limit the number of clerks who may be employed therein, in others the assent of the executive or some board is requisite to an increase of clerical force, while in others the chief of the bureau acts wholly upon his own discretion and employs as many as he sees fit to. The position is a desirable one to many persons and is eagerly sought. Since then he has been over-rested, tried and acquitted. I further found the accounts in an unsatisfactory condition, and the superintendent, from his own showing, a defaulter to the amount of \$877 31, to recover which sum, proceedings are now pending against him and his bail. This condition of affairs, I deem it my duty to call your attention to. Since then he has been over-rested, tried and acquitted. 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